

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Prepared. For Life.®

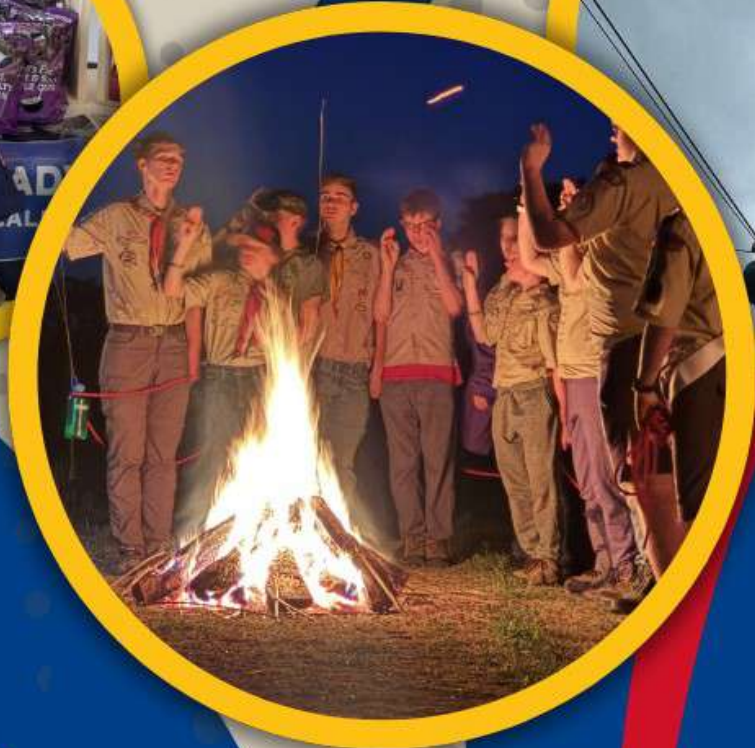


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ABOUT BUFFALO TRACE COUNCIL

BUFFALO TRACE COUNCIL STAFF

John G. Harding
Scout Executive/CEO

Erika Walter-Mecum
Executive Assistant

Jennifer Carapia
Outreach Director

Greg Hager
District Executive

Ryan Abbott
District Executive

Liesl Disch
Development Director



January 1, 2026

Friends, Fellow Scouts, and Future Leaders:

As we reflect on the past year, Buffalo Trace Council celebrates many successes for the nearly 3,000 youth served and 800 adult volunteers. The work we are all doing for the betterment of today's young people and tomorrow's adults will have a lasting impact--together we are building leaders, providing guidance, teaching our youth to think for themselves and make the right choices without prompting. We keep safety paramount for all kids, and we are teaching them to look out for each other, as well.

Scouting brings the best out in the boys and girls, young men, and young women we are serving. We bring them out of the world of screens to interact with others and with nature, while acknowledging the world is advancing with technology and implementing additional STEAM opportunities and technology-focused Merit Badges. Together with you, we are building healthy, well-rounded leaders for the coming decades, and it is truly our honor to do so.

Yours in Scouting,

Handwritten signature of David Hayhurst in blue ink.

David Hayhurst
Council President

Handwritten signature of Joseph Holtz in blue ink.

Joseph Holtz
Council Commissioner

Handwritten signature of John G. Harding in blue ink.

John G. Harding
Scout Executive/CEO

Who We Are

Scouting America charters local councils to serve specific geographic areas in the US. Currently, there are 233 local councils serving our communities.

Buffalo Trace Council was chartered in 1915 and is charged with serving the needs of Scouting's community in 15 counties of Southwest Indiana and Southeast Illinois. Over 100 packs, troops, teams, crews and posts are registered through our council, with a membership of almost 3,000 youth and adult participants!

OUR VALUES

OUR VISION

To prepare young people to be responsible citizens and leaders who are guided by the Scout Oath and Scout Law.



SCOUT OATH

On my honor, I will do my best
to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
to help other people at all times;
to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Buffalo Trace Council, Scouting America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

SCOUT LAW

A Scout is:

Trustworthy

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

Reverent

OUR LEADERSHIP

The Buffalo Trace Council is led by an Executive Board. The board meets quarterly and the officers of the board meet in between. Each year the council's major business is conducted at an Annual Business Meeting, to which all Chartered Organization Representatives are invited. Here the board adopts a budget and formulates a plan of action for the upcoming year. The council employs a Scout Executive and a staff who serve the Scouting community.

Executive Committee

Dr. David Hayhurst
Council President

Dr. James Porter
Immediate Past President

Mark Dicken
Vice President - Programs

Ken Steltenpohl
Vice President - Properties

Dr. Brian L. McGuire

Michael M. Werling

Joseph Holtz
Council Commissioner

Russell G. Lloyd Jr.
Council Treasurer

Jon Keck
Vice President - Membership

Jerome Benkert

William Marsh

Brian P. Williams

John G. Harding
Secretary

Wilfred C. Bussing III
Vice President-Endowment

Becca Scott
Vice President - Marketing

Randall L. Braun

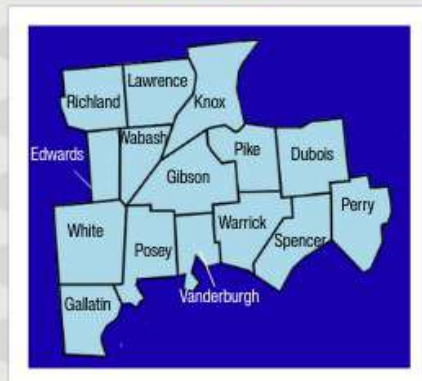
James Q. Morley

Executive Board

Tonya Binney	Jack Pate
Dr. Gael Cooper	David St. Clair
Mike Eddington	Carmen Stoen
Scott Fenneman	Ana Stransky
Thomas A. Fierst	Dr. Theodore Stransky
Mark A. Fleck	Talmadge Vick II
Keith Gehlhausen	Jeff Wedding
David M. Groff	Michael Williams
John Langmaid	

Advisory Council

Richard Baehl	Jill Marcrum
Jeffrey Deisher	William Schuler
David Eckerle	Frank Schultheis
G. Richard Eykamp	James Seibert
J.B. Gates	The Honorable -
Bishop Emeritus -	Randall T. Shepard
Gerald Gettelfinger	Chris Wright
Gregory Gunselman	Robert Wright



District Leadership

Edwin Cahill - Native Trails District Commissioner
Carmen Stoen - Native Trails District Chair
Chad Hawkins - Algonkian District Commissioner
Joe Keller - Lincoln Heritage District Commissioner



SCOUTING PROGRAMS



Cub Scouts

Cub Scouting is a family and home centered program that develops ethical decision-making skills for youth in kindergarten through fifth grade. Activities emphasize character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.



Scouts BSA

Scouts BSA is for boys and girls ages 11-18. Scouts develop awareness and appreciation of their role in their community and become well-rounded young men and women by advancing through the program using the Scout Oath and Scout Law as guides.

Scouts progress in rank through achievements, gain additional knowledge and responsibilities, and earn merit badges that introduce a lifelong hobby or career prospect.



Venturing

Venturing provides experiences to help young men and women, ages 14-20, become mature, responsible, and caring adults.

Young people learn leadership skills and participate in challenging outdoor activities which include access to Scouting America camping properties, a recognition program, Safeguarding Youth Training, and leadership courses.



Explorers apply a tourniquet in the officer down scenario



Exploring

Exploring teaches important life and career skills to young people, ages 14-20, through career experiences and mentorship provided by community and business leaders.

The program equips young people with character and leadership skills through hands-on learning experiences with experts in the field.



Exploring Post 82

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



Fishing Derby



Fishing Derby



Wild West Day Camps



Wild West Day Camps



Wild West Day Camps



Parent N Pal Day - Making Benches



Parent N Pal Day - Making Benches



ScoutReach Field Day



ScoutReach Field Day

Fall Fun Days



Fall Fun Days



Fall Fun Days



Fall Fun Days



Mining in Society Merit Badge Day



Merit Badge University - St. Joseph in Jasper - 133 MBs Earned!



Merit Badge University at University of Southern Indiana - 221 MBs Earned!



Merit Badge University at Vincennes University - 218 MBs Earned!



Spook-O-Ree



Spook-O-Ree



Spook-O-Ree



Surveying Merit Badge Day

COUNCIL STATISTICS

Membership

12/31/2025



Cub Scouts

Total Cub Scout Membership	2,074
Market Penetration	3.41%
Number of Cub Scout Packs	47



Scouts BSA

Total Scouts BSA Membership	647
Market Penetration	2.94%
Number of Scouts BSA Troops	45



Venturing

Total Venturing Membership	210
Market Penetration	0.57%
Number of Venturing Crews	11



Exploring

Total Exploring Membership	23
Number of Exploring Posts	1

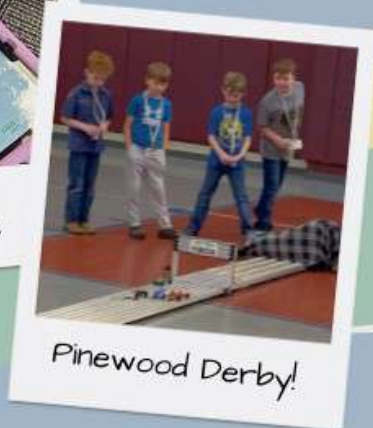


Council Totals

Total Available Youth	76,354
Total Youth Served in 2025	2,954
Market Penetration	3.87%
Total Number of Units	104
Total Number of Adult Leaders	792



ScoutReach
Sphero Robots



Pinewood Derby!

COUNCIL STATISTICS

Scout Assistance

COUNCIL RANK
#2 in INDIANA
TOP 20 in U.S.
FOR MARKET SHARE
259%

\$28,426
Total Funds Awarded for Camperships and
Financial Assistance for 2025.

Rank Advancement

778
Ranks Earned

New Merit Badge Added:
Cyber Security

New Merit Badge Added:
Artificial Intelligence



HOURS OF
SERVICE
12,647
IN THE
COMMUNITY

Merit Badges

2,307
awarded

Cub Scout Adventures

4,217
awarded

How you can support Scouting

We are so grateful for your interest in and care of our future leaders through Scouting. Please contact our Development Office at 812-423-5246 ext. 2213 to learn more about how you can help grow this impact for years to come.

Monetary Gifts (Give Online) | Gifts of Stock | IRA Gifts - Qualified Charitable Distribution | Planned Giving - Wills, Trusts, DAFs, etc. | Employer Matching Gifts | Gifts-In-Kind | Purchase Popcorn and Other Products | Volunteer | Purchase Indiana or Illinois Special Scouting License Plates | Invite others to join you in supporting Scouts

2025 EAGLE SCOUTS

<u>Scout Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Joshua Baehl	Evansville, IN	Troop 393
Taylor Brundage	Haubstadt, IN	Troop 246
Emmett Campbell	Boonville, IN	Troop 161
Parker Daugherty	Evansville, IN	Troop 350
Isaac Decamps	Evansville, IN	Troop 399
Conner Fields	Otwell, IN	Troop 151
Aiden Folz	Newburgh, IN	Troop 383
Logan Garwood	Newburgh, IN	Troop 352
Seth Gentil	Wadesville, IN	Troop 386
Camden Graman	Jasper, IN	Troop 185
Oliver Griffin	Evansville, IN	Troop 374
Kyle Head	Mount Vernon, IN	Troop 397
Lucas Hirsch	Evansville, IN	Troop 312
Noah Hoff	Newburgh, IN	Troop 352
Corvin Hoffman	Birdseye, IN	Troop 182
Mitchel Huebner	Jasper, IN	Troop 185
Isaiah Lueken	Jasper, IN	Troop 186
Zoe Mann	Newburgh, IN	Troop 315G
Benjamin Market	Evansville, IN	Troop 374
Jonas Marshall	Oakland City, IN	Troop 240
Eli Martin	Ferdinand, IN	Troop 186
Ryan Moesner	Evansville, IN	Troop 301
Benedict Mundy	Tell City, IN	Troop 186
Cory Nelson	Gentryville, IN	Troop 102
Arthur Osborn	Troy, IN	Troop 186

<u>Scout Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Stephanie Panayides	Newburgh, IN	Troop 315G
Sarah Parker	Evansville, IN	Troop 374G
Austin Parker	Evansville, IN	Troop 393
Alexander Rawlinson	Newburgh, IN	Troop 315
Ethan Ripke	Newburgh, IN	Troop 330
Lukas Robinson	Newburgh, IN	Troop 305
Elijah Rudibaugh	Evansville, IN	Troop 371
Jack Rumbach	Jasper, IN	Troop 130
Alexander Schmidt	Evansville, IN	Troop 301
Zachary Schmitt	Jasper, IN	Troop 185
Peyton Seymour	Poseyville, IN	Troop 386
Daniel Sieben	Evansville, IN	Troop 393
Riley Steinmetz	Ferdinand, IN	Troop 186
Brogan Stenftenagel	Jasper, IN	Troop 130
Tanay Thakore	Newburgh, IN	Troop 330
Andrew Tubbs	Jasper, IN	Troop 182
Samuel Walters	Elberfeld, IN	Troop 175
Alec Wehr	Jasper, IN	Troop 185
Nora Welp	Ferdinand, IN	Troop 186G
Eli Werner	Jasper, IN	Troop 185
Joshua Wilhite	Ferdinand, IN	Troop 186
Austin Wilson	Sumner, IL	Troop 211
Cora Winger	Newburgh, IN	Troop 315G
Kyle Woehler	Jasper, IN	Troop 185
Zach Woodyard	Evansville, IN	Crew 312
Jayden Zeller	Evansville, IN	Troop 397

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Awarded at Council Court of Honor, April 2025

THE NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION
GLENN A. AND MELINDA W. ADAMS
NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT
SERVICE PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Samuel Osterman
Troop 185
Holy Family Catholic Church, Jasper, IN



BUFFALO TRACE COUNCIL
EAGLE SCOUT SCHOLARSHIP

Jacob Stoen
Troop 301
Methodist Temple, Evansville, IN



MARY E. JULIAN
SCHOLARSHIP

Drake Bellessa
Troop 203
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Parish, Vincennes, IN



SECOND CENTURY
SOCIETY

The Family of
Kevin Aker
Newburgh, IN



JAMES E. WEST
FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Cindy & Dave Winkleman
Cynthiana, IN



MEDAL OF
MERIT

Amelia Mitchell
Olney, IL



DUTY TO
GOD

Bill Noll
Evansville, IN



SILVER BEAVER AWARD



Tonya Binney
Evansville, IN



Travis Paulin
Ferdinand, IN



Carmen Stoen
Evansville, IN

DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN AWARD



Dan Hermann
Lechwe Holdings, LLC
Evansville, IN
August 2025

Dan Fritch
Matrix Integrations
Jasper, IN
October 2025



CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

Listed by County

DUBOIS

St. John's Lutheran Church
Dubois, IN

Christ the King Catholic Church
Ferdinand, IN

Kiwanis & Sons of the American Legion
Holland, IN

Kiwanis Club of Huntingburg
Huntingburg, IN

St. Mary Catholic Church
Ireland, Indiana

Christ Lutheran Church
Jasper, IN

Holy Family Catholic Church
Jasper, IN

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Jasper, IN

EDWARDS

First United Methodist Church
Albion, IL

GIBSON

Oakland City Lions Club
Oakland City, IN

Princeton Community Primary School PTO
Princeton, IN

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Princeton, IN

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church
Haubstadt, IN

KNOX

American Legion Post #73
Vincennes, IN

Franklin School PTO
Vincennes, IN

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Parish
Vincennes, IN

Vincennes University
Vincennes, IN

LAWRENCE

Sumner Lodge #334
Sumner, IL

PERRY

American Legion Post 213
Tell City, IN

PIKE

First United Methodist Church
Petersburg, IN

POSEY

First United Methodist Church
Mt. Vernon, IN

Trinity Evangelical Church of Mt. Vernon, Inc.
Mt. Vernon, IN

New Harmony Kiwanis Club
New Harmony, IN

St. Paul's Global Methodist Church
Poseyville, IN

St. Wendel Catholic Church/Knights of St. John
Wadesville, IN

RICHLAND

First Presbyterian Church
Olney, IL

SPENCER

Cornerstone United Methodist Church
Chrisney, IN

Dale Kiwanis Club
Dale, IN

St. Meinrad American Legion
St. Meinrad, IN

VANDERBURGH

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
Evansville, IN

Arc of Evansville
Evansville, IN

Bethlehem United Church of Christ
Evansville, IN

Blue Grass Church, Inc.
Evansville, IN

Boys and Girls Club of Evansville, Inc.
Evansville, IN and Rockport, IN

Carver Community Organization
Evansville, IN

Central Support Group
Evansville, IN

Dream Center of Evansville
Evansville, IN



CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

VANDERBURGH

Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation
Caze Elementary School
Cedar Hall Elementary School
Delaware Elementary School
Dexter Elementary School
Evans Elementary School
Fairlawn Elementary School
Glenwood Leadership Academy
Harper Elementary School
Hebron Elementary School
Highland Elementary School
Lincoln School
Lodge Community School
Evansville, IN

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
Evansville, IN

Holy Rosary Catholic Church
Evansville, IN

Howell United Methodist Church
Evansville, IN

Methodist Temple
Evansville, IN

Old North United Methodist Church
Evansville, IN

St. Boniface Parish
Evansville, IN

Salem United Methodist Church
Evansville, IN

St. Benedict Cathedral
Evansville, IN

VANDERBURGH

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Evansville, IN

St. Peter's on the Hill
Evansville, IN

University of Evansville
Evansville, IN

Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office
Evansville, IN

YMCA Caldwell
Evansville, IN

WABASH

Wabash County Youth Foundation
Mount Carmel, IL

WHITE

Fraternal Order of Police Local Lodge 249
Carmi, IL

Rotary Club of Carmi
Carmi, IL

WARRICK

American Legion Post 200
Boonville, IN

Men's Brotherhood First Baptist Church
Boonville, IN

Lynnville Volunteer Fire Department
Lynnville, IN

Castle Elementary School PTO
Newburgh, IN

Newburgh Elementary School
Newburgh, IN

Newburgh Kiwanis Club
Newburgh, IN

Newburgh Lodge #174 F&AM
Newburgh, IN

Newburgh United Methodist Church
Newburgh, IN

Sharon Elementary School
Newburgh, IN

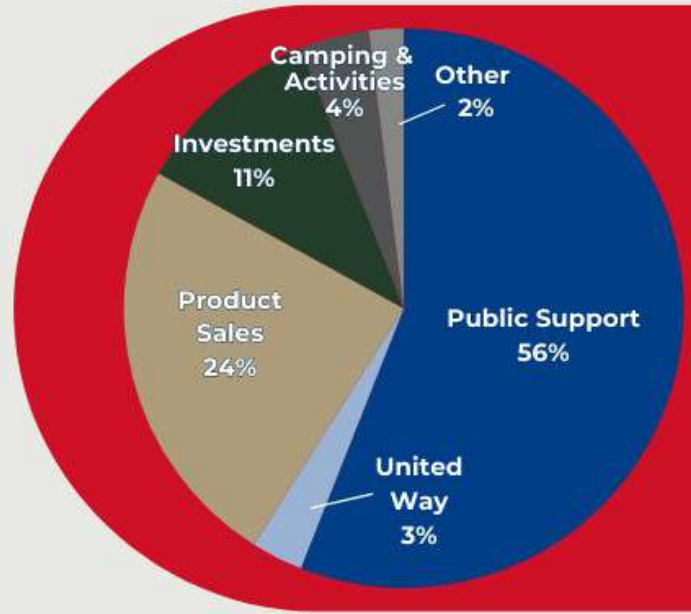
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Newburgh, IN



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

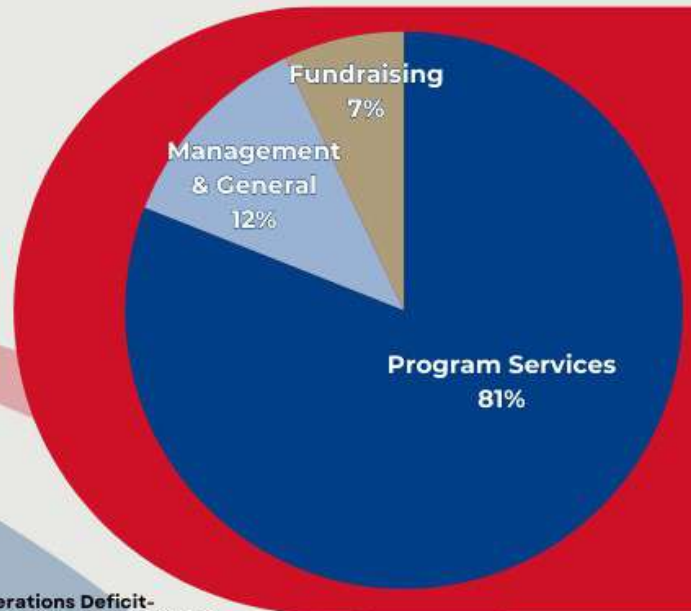
INCOME

<u>Budget Area</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Public Support	\$518,749	56%
United Way	\$29,860	3%
Product Sales	\$219,527	24%
Investments	\$106,147	11%
Camping & Activities	\$40,039	4%
Other	\$18,739	2%
Total	\$933,061	100%



EXPENSES

<u>Budget Area</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Program Services	\$801,017	81%
Management & General	\$118,669	12%
Fundraising	\$69,224	7%
Total	\$988,910	100%



Operations Deficit-
5.98% of the Total Budget

The 2025 financial statements will be audited by the firm of Blue & Co., LLC. The accounting system used by Buffalo Trace Council is in conformity with the requirements of Scouting America and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The audit will be on file for inspection following completion at the Eykamp Scout Center, located at 3501 E. Lloyd Expressway, Evansville, IN 47715.



Scouting is financed in part by the United Way of Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, and Posey Counties.

POPCORN LEADERS



Owen

Buffalo Trace Council Top Popcorn Seller!

#112 in the Country

OWEN P.

Troop 374
\$14,882 in Sales
Evansville, IN



Alex

2nd Top Popcorn Seller

#280 in the Country

JAMIE C.

Troop 374G
\$10,796 in Sales
Evansville, IN

4th Top Popcorn Seller

#396 in the Country

VINCENT B.

Troop 375
\$9,742 in Sales
Mt. Vernon, IN



Keyton & Zeke

5th Top Popcorn Seller

#710 in the Country

KEYTON F.

Pack 186
\$7,225 in Sales
Ferdinand, IN



Jamie

3rd Top Popcorn Seller

#334 in the Country

ALEXANDRIA P.

Troop 374G
\$10,210 in Sales
Evansville, IN



Vincent

Buffalo Trace Council Top Popcorn Family!

THE PYM FAMILY

Owen, Troop 374
Alex, Troop 374G
\$25,092 in Sales

2nd Top Popcorn Family THE GOINS FAMILY

Savannah, Troop 374G
Raina, Pack 246
\$7,511 in Sales

3rd Top Popcorn Family THE RANARD FAMILY

Jack, Troop 352
Logan, Pack 369
\$6,556 in Sales

4th Top Popcorn Family THE BAHR FAMILY

Castiel, Pack 325
Dorian, Pack 325
\$5,015 in Sales



Jack & Logan

Owen & Alex
delivering Heroes
and Helpers
Peanuts to
Vanderburgh
County Sheriff's
Office



Buffalo Trace Council Top Popcorn Selling Unit!

#26 in the Country
PACK 369
\$90,931 in Sales
Newburgh, IN



Pack 369

2nd Top Popcorn Selling Unit

#204 in the Country
Troop 374G
\$49,213 in Sales
Evansville, IN

3rd Top Popcorn Selling Unit

#249 in the Country
Pack 325
\$45,107 in Sales
Newburgh, IN



A few of P325

4th Top Popcorn Selling Unit

#347 in the Country
Pack 246
\$39,991 in Sales
Haubstadt, IN



Join us in
**UNLEASHING
THE POTENTIAL**
of our
**FUTURE
LEADERS.**



Time, talent, and treasure all make a difference for the kids of Buffalo Trace Council.
Contact us to learn more about how you can change the lives of Scouts in our community.



buffalotracecouncil.org



administration@buffalotracecouncil.org



812-423-5246



Eykamp Scout Center
3501 E Lloyd Expressway
Evansville, IN 47715

