



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
THREE FIRES COUNCIL



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Media Advisory – Local Boy Scouts of America Council to Honor Statesman Tom Cross

46th Annual Distinguished Citizens Award Gala



ST. CHARLES, IL – Scouting continues to make a difference in the lives of youth and impacts the Three Fires Council community daily. On September 15, the local Boy Scouts of America Council will welcome more than 200 community members to the annual Distinguished Citizens Award Gala to celebrate Scouting, the community and the newest distinguished citizen.

“Participation in the upcoming prestigious event is an investment in today’s youth who are striving to build a better tomorrow through the Scouting program,” said Rob Sinda, Three Fires Council Director of Development/CFO. “The event recognizes those who have unselfishly dedicated themselves to community service within the Three Fires Council, with special interest in the welfare and development of our youth.”

Each year the Council honors an individual in the Three Fires Council service area that has exemplified the tenants of the Scout Oath and Law in their daily activities. Statesman Tom Cross will be honored as this year's Distinguished Citizen. Tom served as an elected official in the Illinois State House of Representatives for more than 20 years. In 2003, Tom was elected by his fellow legislators to serve as the House Republican Leader. Today, Tom continues to serve in many leadership roles such as being the Chairperson of the Illinois Board of Higher Education and Chairperson for the State Universities Retirement System. Tom is also an advocate for

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STEM education and serves as the Executive Director for the Institute of Collaboration at Aurora University.

“Our Distinguished Citizen provides an excellent example of leadership, citizenship and helping others,” said Sinda. “His community responsibility and personal integrity demonstrates the importance of character development, that our youth strive for each day.”

Past recipients of the award have included Mae and John Calamos (Calamos Investments), Mayor Emeritus A. George Pradel (Naperville), and Jerry Rich (Rich Harvest Farms).

WHO: Three Fires Council, Boy Scouts of America; Statesman Tom Cross

WHAT: 46th Annual Distinguished Citizens Award Gala

WHEN: 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15

WHERE: Illinois Aviation Academy Hangar, 32W751 Tower Road, West Chicago, IL 60185

For more information about the 2018 DCAG, visit:

<http://threefirescouncil.org/portfolio/2018-distinguished-citizens-award-dinner/>

About Three Fires Council

Three Fires Council is headquartered in St. Charles, Illinois, and was formed in 1925. It serves over 14,000 youth throughout Kane, DuPage, Kendall, DeKalb, and parts of Will and Cook Counties. Local communities are divided into 10 volunteer-led districts. Approximately 6,000 adult volunteers serve local youth. Last year, more than 142,000 community service hours were accumulated in Eagle Scout projects and other service opportunities. Three Fires Council also boasts two camps: Camp Big Timber (Elgin, Illinois) and Camp Freeland Leslie (Oxford, Wisconsin).

Website: www.threefirescouncil.org

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