



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
THREE FIRES COUNCIL



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Media Advisory – Naperville Boy Scout Troop to Honor Fallen Soldier

Bridge rededication for Eagle Scout and USMC Sergeant David M. Caruso



*Ceremonial Crossover Bridge to be named after USMC Sergeant Caruso
Photo Credit: Green Valley Forest Preserve*

ST. CHARLES, IL – Eagle Scout David Caruso, in troop 505 of Knox Presbyterian Church in Naperville is remembered as a leader who exemplifies the Scouting principles of Duty to God, Duty to Country, and Duty to Others. Caruso was a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps (USMC), he gave his life serving our community and our country in the second Battle of Fallujah. In 2004, Sgt. Caruso was killed in Iraq on November 9.

In his honor the Green Valley Forest Preserve in Naperville dedicated his Eagle Scout project, a bridge crossing over the stream, to be named after the fallen soldier. Caruso was 16 years old when he became an Eagle Scout. After nearly 25 years the bridge fell into disrepair and was broken down.

Joe Noce, a 2018 Eagle Scout from troop 505 was searching for an Eagle Project when he learned about the troop's history and became familiar with Caruso's story. Inspired by the legacy of Caruso, Noce was able to salvage some of the wood from the original Caruso Bridge and

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incorporated it for a ceremonial crossover bridge approximately 100 yards away from Caruso's original bridge at the Green Valley Forest Preserve. The four posts and the base are all pieces from Caruso's Bridge.

"How Caruso served our country is something that I'll never be able to fully understand," said Noce. "however, I wanted to follow in his footsteps in becoming an Eagle Scout. Simply hearing his story, I knew his memory deserved to live on."

On Saturday, Oct. 13 the USMC and Scouts from Troop 505 will hold a rededication ceremony of the bridge and dedicate Noce's Eagle Scout Project as the David Caruso Ceremonial Crossover Bridge. The bridge may be used by the public, as well as when Webelos (Cub Scouts in fifth grade) cross over to become Boy Scouts (Scouts BSA in Feb. 2019).

"The crossover bridge will commemorate an American Hero and the legacy of our Troop," said Noce.

The event will host a Court of Honor where more than 200 merit badges and 12 rank advancements will be awarded. Proceeding the Court of Honor will be the rededication ceremony.

WHO: United State Marine Corps, Troop 505 and the community.

WHAT: Rededication of bridge to honor fallen soldier.

WHEN: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13.

WHERE: Green Valley Forest Preserve, Campsite 10, Thunderbird Road, Naperville, IL

About Three Fires Council

Three Fires Council is headquartered in St. Charles, Illinois, and was formed in 1925. It serves more than 14,500 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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