



City of St. Charles

ILLINOIS

Proclamation

STEPHEN PATRICK PARA

WHEREAS, **STEPHEN PATRICK PARA**, 18, is the son of Patrick and Mary Jo Para. Stephen is currently a Senior at St. Charles North High School, where he belongs to the National Honors Society, and is working towards pursuing his dream to be an aeronautical/aerospace engineer. He hopes to attend Perdue or Notre Dame next fall. Stephen has been involved in scouting for 10 years. He was first a cub scout in Pack 165 at Ferson Creek Elementary and then with Troop 56 based at Wildrose Elementary; and

WHEREAS, **STEPHEN** has worked very hard over these years to accomplish his eagle scout rank. One of the things that has made Stephen's scouting journey especially unique, is that Stephen is profoundly deaf in both ears. He wears two cochlear implants and through many years of speech therapy and early education at Child's Voice (a private school for the deaf in Wood Dale Illinois) he speaks very well and does no sign language to communicate. The scouts and adult leadership in Troop 56 have been very supportive of Stephen reaching his scouting goals. Stephen worked through many obstacles related to his deafness and earned all his scouting merits without special accommodations; and

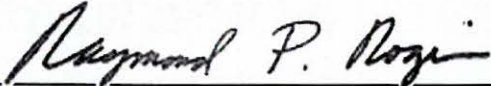
WHEREAS, **STEPHEN** has camped for 70 nights with Troop 56, attended the MakaJaWan Scout Reservation for five summers and has earned a total of 35 merit badges - many of them in STEM fields of study: Astronomy, Nuclear Science, Chemistry, Engineering and Electronics. Alongside fellow Troop 56 scouts, he has participated in 111 hours of service to our community and assisted with multiple Eagle Scout projects. To develop leadership skills, Stephen served as a Den Chief to Pack 165 as well as a Troop Instructor and Guide. In 2015, the troop elected Stephen as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and in 2017 Stephen was the acting Senior Patrol Leader at Camp MaKaJaWan; and

WHEREAS, **STEPHEN'S** Eagle Scout project benefited the youngest members of the St. Charles Community. He designed and built a large custom library table with benches for the St. Patrick's Catholic Preschool and refurbished a 'reading tree' in the library. Stephen also organized a preschool book drive at multiple local cub scout packs, which resulted in 200 additional books for the library.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, hereby proclaim that the highest congratulations are in order as **STEPHEN PATRICK PARA** has worked very diligently to attain the highest honor of **EAGLE SCOUT!**

SEAL:




Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor