

TO: ELM FORK DISTRICT (former North Star & Blackland Prairie districts)

DATE: July 27, 2019

Scouters,

My name is **Ed Bardwell**. I am a Circle 10 scouting volunteer and it has been my honor to serve as the **Transition Committee** chair for the merger of the Blackland Prairie and North Star districts. Through the Council realignment study, it was determined that unifying these districts was in the best interests of the community, the youth and the units, and that together the merged district would have the critical mass of Scouts and Scouters to provide an amazing Scouting Experience for all involved.

There have been many steps in this process and I have had a great committee with leadership from both districts to drive this effort. A special thank you to David Ragsdale, Larry Brown, Mark Avery and Jay Smith for their involvement.

One of the main steps in the transition process was to select a new name for the district. To accomplish this task, a separate group of Scouters were identified to guide the exploration. In addition to soliciting names (and receiving over 20 options!) and researching possibilities, the naming subcommittee had to work within Council guidelines. These guidelines required that the new name:

- Exclude all of the 'words' within either of the current district (North, Blackland, Prairie, Star)
- Not be recycled from a previous district name
- Not use the initials of another Circle 10 district

The committee, comprised of Scouters from both districts, wanted a name that uniquely represented all of the area and that everyone could own equally. Through the nomination process and adhering to the Council guidelines, the naming subcommittee selected "**Elm Fork**" as the name for the new district.

In part, the name was selected because the Elm Fork is a tributary of the Trinity River that flows 21.5 miles through the district. It was the first source of water for Carrollton, Farmers Branch and Dallas. It's location and role in the history of the community are undeniable. As a district name, Elm Fork will allow Scouts and Scouters to have a unifying geographical reference and an interesting backstory that can grow as the district establishes itself.

Welcome to Elm Fork district!

Yours in Scouting,

Ed Bardwell