

1993 Suburban Communications Corporation

IN THE PAPER TODAY



Santa grounded: Fog and rain prevented Santa Claus from coming to downtown Farmington by helicopter, but the annual Christmas shindig was lots of fun anyway. /3A

Thanks, Edison: Detroit Edison used Donn Wolf, county commissioner, to deliver a \$500 donation for the Farmington 125th Anniversary Sculpture Committee. /2A

A remarkable man: Today we mark the passing of Eugene B. Power, father of Philip Power, who both have had large roles to play in the publishing industry. /4A

OPINION

Rip the rag! The newspaper has taken its lumps over coverage of marching band activities. /20A

Hail the HHS band! Let's recognize and support all school achievers, says Farmington Hills resident Tina Marinucci, this week's guest columnist. /21A

SPORTS

For openers: High school boys basketball began Tuesday with Farmington, North Farmington, and Harrison all playing at home. /1B

ENTERTAINMENT

Movies: Wayne and Garth present a marathon rock concert in "Wayne's World 2." /9B

SUBURBAN LIFE

Breathless pace: Amputee finds strength, both physically and emotionally, from swimming. She nurtures sick animals and launches countless programs to help others. /1C

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Archer gets a hero's welcome



The man who will do battle as Detroit's new mayor received a warm welcome from suburban leaders Tuesday night at the South Oakland Mayors Conference in Farmington Hills.

By BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

It was not Dickens, but it was surely a case of great expectations. Detroit Mayor-elect Dennis Archer was a half an hour late to the South Oakland County Mayors dinner in Farmington Hills, but nobody com-

plained. It gave the 75 or so local government officials and guests a chance to give him a standing ovation. Archer's timing just heightened the anticipation of a room full of suburban leaders who had come to hear and shake hands with the new leader of the state's largest city.

"Electric," was how a beaming Frank Lauhoff, Farmington city manager, described the atmosphere. "You can just see how excited people are when they talk to him."

Like just about everyone else at the Tee Room of the Sun Marino Golf Course, the featured speaker, former Gov. George Romney, didn't disguise his delight at Archer's appearance. "He has heightened expectations," said Romney, who used the occasion to talk about cooperative efforts between Detroit and the suburbs. "We want to reconnect the suburbs with Detroit."

For his part, Archer appeared relaxed as he answered questions from two local TV stations before telling his audience what they came to hear. "I'm delighted to be here with you," he said. He then quickly added: "And I'm glad the campaign is finally over."

Applause and appreciative laughter followed. The audience was primed on prime rib and a sense that Archer, unlike outgoing Mayor Coleman Young, was someone they could work with.

See ARCHER, 5A

From Gettysburg to Farmington Hills



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tools of war: Gary Fritchard, who played a part in the movie 'Gettysburg,' displays his regalia from the Civil War and World Wars I and II.

Civil War buffs take a shine to history

By BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Events that took place more than 100 years ago are more than the subject of popular movies, television and books for members of the Michigan Regimental Civil War Round Table.

They're inseparable from what this country is.

"My father took me to some mu-

seums and battlefields," said Jerry Maxwell, a North Farmington history teacher and round table member for 25 years who has published articles about the war.

"It hasn't really surprised me that people are interested in the Civil War. It's an American war, where the names, people and places are familiar and not foreign to us. And

many people have relatives who served."

Maxwell is a case in point.

"On my father's side, my great-great-grandfather was one of five brothers (in Tennessee)," Maxwell said. "Two served with the union and two with the confederacy. They all survived the war. He did not serve and was killed by a stray bul-

let." The round table, which meets the last Monday of the month at the Farmington Community Library's branch on 12 Mile Road, sponsors a trip to a Civil War battlefield each October. This year about 50 members went to Antietam Creek in Maryland and Harpers Ferry, Va.

See WAR, 5A

Scherer named interim school superintendent

By SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Cancel the trip to Florida. Duty calls in Farmington.

That's what's happening with Clifford Scherer, named interim superintendent of the Farmington Public Schools. He replaces Superintendent Michael Flanagan, who leaves Jan. 1 to head up the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency. Scherer will guide the district until the permanent superintendent — ei-

ther Berkeley's C. Robert Maxfield or East China's Thomas Shorkey — can take over. The board of education is expected to make its choice at next Tuesday's meeting.

Scherer, a retired superintendent, is well known to Michael Flanagan.

"This gentleman was my mentor," Flanagan said at Tuesday's school board meeting. Flanagan was superintendent for business during Scherer's 13 years as Huron Valley school chief.

"He brings 30 years experience in education," added Cathy Webb, president of the Farmington Board of Education.

Scherer, a Milford resident, retired as superintendent of the Huron Valley Schools in 1983.

He holds a 1948 bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from St. John's University in Minnesota and earned a master's degree in education administration in 1955 from South Dakota State University.

"This is an interesting challenge," said Scherer, who put off plans for a trip to Florida to take the Farmington post.

Scherer will be paid on a day-by-day basis and will receive no benefits, Webb said. He currently works as a financial planner/analyst for the Michigan Benefit Financial Co. in Auburn Hills.

He and his wife, Edith, have seven grown children.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

Open housing program

The Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council of Farmington and Farmington Hills will present a community forum on open housing from 8-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 33000 Thomas, Farmington.

Speakers will be Ann Wetlaufer and Deborah Wright-Taylor of the Oakland County Center for Open Housing.

Wetlaufer will explain the group's Incentive Loan Program which provides funds at low interest rates to people making "pro-integrative"

moves. Wright-Taylor will discuss the Volunteer Program designed to welcome new families making "pro-integrative" moves into the Farmington area.

The forum is open to the public.

Memory Lane

From the Dec. 10, 1953 edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

■ Traffic on Orchard Lake Road between Grand River and 10 Mile Road was being rerouted while workmen complete construction of a new culvert across Orchard Lake.

■ The Farmington State Bank was offering 24-month auto loans at 4 and 5 percent.

■ Municipal Judge John Schulte was vacationing in Florida, Texas and California. He was not expected back until mid-January.