

# Hills Boy Scout receives Catholic Church honor

Douglas Voigt of Farmington Hills received the Catholic Church's Ad Altare Dei religious award at the annual January court of honor of Boy Scout Troop 179.

The award, which is offered by the Boy Scouts of America in conjunction with the Roman Catholic Church, requires a Scout to learn more about his religious faith by investigating the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. Many faiths offer similar awards through the Boy Scouts for interested members.



Assistant Scoutmaster John Hovanecian presents the Ad Altare Dei to Douglas Voigt of Troop 179 in Farmington Hills.

"The purpose of the Boy Scout movement is to teach a boy how to become an honorable man, and part of that involves showing reverence toward his maker," said John Hovanecian, assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 179 who presented the award. "Some Scouts go beyond this basic requirement by earning these awards."

VOIGT WORKED with his counselor, Sister Loretta of St. Fabian's Catholic Church in Farmington Hills, where he is a member with his family. He submitted reports on each of the seven sacraments and a final presentation detailing all he had learned.

This presentation was approved by Voigt's counselor, by his pastor, and finally by the Archdiocese of the Catholic Church before the award could be presented.

The award consists of a cross

suspended from a ribbon which hangs on a bar bearing the inscription "Ad Altare Dei" meaning "toward the altar of God" in Latin. For more informal occasions Doug may wear an embroidered cloth square knot on his Scout uniform to represent the award.

Voigt's parents, David and Ella Voigt of Farmington Hills, are both volunteers with Scout Troop 179, which meets each Tuesday evening from September through June at the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

## obituaries

### BELVEL BOYD

Mr. Boyd, 78, of Farmington Hills died March 14.

Born in Solida, Calif., Mr. Boyd was a civil engineer/partner of Boyd-Lorenzo Construction. He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic University in New York.

Mr. Boyd was a member of the Professional Engineer Society (founder of Rouge Valley Chapter), a 40-year member of MENSEA, Association of General Contractors and the Rensselaer Club. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Mr. Boyd was with the U.S. Corps of Engineers and helped with the planning and construction of Boulder Dam and was resident engineer Detroit Water Board of Planning and helped in the building of the Detroit

Zoo and many public schools. Survivors include his wife, Evelyn, son, Jonathan; daughters, Deborah Mitchell, Christine Behring and Jeannette Hayward; sister, Lillian Good; six grandchildren.

Services were March 17 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Thomas Eggebeen of St. Paul Presbyterian Church. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery, Farmington.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

### ELMA ESTHER SPALLER

Mrs. Spaller, 81, of Farmington Hills died March 15.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Spaller was the former payroll manager for John

Hancock Insurance. She was a graduate of Redford High School and attended two years of business school. She was active in Holcomb School PTA. She was a member of Redford United Methodist Church, past president of Women's Society, Charter member of Calvary Guild and was a Sunday school teacher.

Mrs. Spaller was a member of the Rosedale Park Artists Guild. Survivors include her husband,

Percy, son, William; daughter, Patricia Bacon; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services were March 19 at Redford Methodist Church, with the Rev. John R. Wallace officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Memorials may be made to the Arthritis Foundation. Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

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