### Veterans honored at 6th annual Stars & Stripes

More than 100 veterans were honored Friday during the 6th annual Stars & Stripes Forever Veterans Day celebration at the Costlek Center.
Registered veterans, mostly from World War II conflict, and guests were honored in Farmington Hills. The Farmington Hills Senior Division and The American House retirement residence sponsored the event, for which the Churchill High School Marching Band performed the opening ceremony.
The sixth annual event honors the contributions and sacrifices made by military men and women in peace and at war time, said Mary DiManno, senior adult supervisor.
We're here to honor and serve you as you have served us, 'DiManno told the audience.
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the audience.
Government officials from
Farmington and Farmington Hills
were also on hand to honor attendees.
Farmington Mayor Jim Mitchell
sald as a boy he thought war was a
game to be played among his friends.
That was until a school assignment
led him to serious talk to his World
War II veteran uncle about his experrience.

He said his uncle was 19 years old when he was sent to Italy then to the

"It was not something he'd wish on anyone," Mitchell said. "He told, me, 'Jim, war is hell," the mayor said. "I remember this to this dear."

"He told, me, Jim, war is hell," the mayer said. I remember this to this ay."

Mitchell said America owes it to the men and women of the World War II generation who also had to endure the Great Depression as children. He agreed with broadcaster and author Tom Brokaw, saying they are the Greatest Generation.

"We can never repay that debt of gratitude," he said.
Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates said, 'America is great because of you."

She notted there are 100,000 veterans in Oakland County and 25.6 million nationwide.

Dimmon gave a roll call of the names of the veterans in attendance at the enther, which was filled with patriotic colors. Guests enjoyed a lunch, daneling and afternoon refreshments during the event.

U.S. Rep Joe Knollenberg also made air appearances.

Time and time again America is called upon to defend freedom, he said. The liberties we enjoy every day are because of you."

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Pauline and Ernest Goodwin of Westland dance to the sounds of The Memories Band.



U.S. Representative Joe Knollenberg made a surprise visit to the 'Stars & Stripes Forever' (uncheon.



(From left to right) Richard H. Gibbs, Pat O'Leary, and Sam Pettinato look over Pettinato's scra

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MRPA Funbooks: Michigan Recreation and Park Association Funbooks are available at the Costick Center Recreation Division. The book offers discounts on tickets for the Detroit Pistons, Detroit Fury, and the Detroit Shock and more. The cost is \$25 each.

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