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HIGH HONOR—George R. DeCourcy, along with two Boy Scouts, shows the Silver Beaver award he recently received for distinguished service to boyhood. The Clinton Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America presented the award, the highest honor a local council can confer. (Event photo)

Little Leaguers Play After Parade

FARMINGTON The opening day parade and ceremony for 500 young baseball players will be at noon Saturday, May 16.

The parade, featuring players from South Farmington Baseball for Boys will assemble on Oakland just north of the Masonic Temple in downtown Farmington.

The parade group will travel east on Grand River to Warner, north on Warner to Shawassee, then east on Shawassee to the City Park at Power and Shawassee.

The parade will be led by a police escort. It will be followed by a color guard, a band, cars carrying city and league officials, and players from the teams.

The ceremony in the city park will be highlighted by a speech by Farmington Mayor Wilbur Brotherton, who will

also throw out the first ball of the season. A game between teams from the group's major leagues will follow.

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Local Scoutmaster Wins A Silver Beaver Award

By VICTOR OMELCZENKO

As the energetic scoutmaster of Troop 116 in Farmington from 1958-1968, George R. DeCourcy earned through the Canadian wilds and camped out in temperatures 15 below zero.

Recently he received the Silver Beaver award, the highest honor a local Boy Scout council can bestow upon scouters.

He lives at 32770 Briarcrest Knoll. BUT SUCCESSFULLY coping with nature was not the only reason DeCourcy was honored. His involvement with scouting dates back to his days as a Boy Scout.

In addition to his role as scoutmaster, he became president of the Clinton Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America in 1966.

Although the president's term lasts only two years, DeCourcy was asked to remain for an additional term. "But when December 31 arrives, I won't just hang up my scouting gear," said DeCourcy. "Any man who's had a taste of scouting really never gets it out of his blood," he added.

The Silver Beaver award is based on service to youth throughout the community, not only in scouting but in other areas as well.

DeCourcy HAS been the vice president of the North Farmington Baseball League, which involves over 1,000 boys. He has also served on the official board of his church and acted as president of the Pony and Colt baseball leagues.

"I enjoy working with people and have great faith in the young men of America," explained DeCourcy. He believes that "young men are the greatest natural resource America has. Maybe that's a catchword," he admitted. "BUT I really believe it."

As president of the Clinton Valley Council, DeCourcy works closely with chief scouting executives, being responsible for the organization's

growth, financial affairs and programming.

"We try to make scouting available to all boys," said DeCourcy. The council serves most of Oakland and Macomb counties, including 33 townships and 33 cities and villages in which over one million persons reside.

Over 3,700 volunteers DeCourcy is also one of their help. "No one man makes a troop," said DeCourcy. "Many people help to make scouting a success."

IN ADDITION to the Silver Beaver award, DeCourcy previously received two other scouting honors.

The Scoutor Award was given to him in 1961, for three consecutive years of service as a scoutmaster. In 1964, he earned the Scoutor Key, which is awarded for three more years of working as a scoutmaster.

The DeCourcy family is a scouting family, with two sons who are Eagle Scouts, a daughter who is a Girl Scout and a wife, Farrell, who attends many scouting functions.

DeCourcy is a project engineer in government communications for the Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

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