

## Life in America

# Albanian families face fear

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

An early morning explosion which Farmington fire officials are convinced was accidental is being viewed by an Albanian family in the Hills as another attempt upon their lives.

The vapors of a carelessly stored bottle of gasoline leaked through the crawl space to pipes leading to a gas stove of Marsh Camaj's home, 21009 Brossendale, according to Fire Chief John Valente.

The Sept. 13 explosion didn't harm Camaj, his wife and three children.

Hills public safety officials have condemned the home and won't allow the family to retrieve personal possessions.

The family is staying with relatives.

"MY BROTHER thinks that it wasn't an

**'I want to blend the best of two cultures, the Albanian and American.'**

**Father Prank Camaj**

accident," the Rev. Prank Camaj, of St. Athanasius Catholic Church, Dearborn, said.

"I tried to explain to him in Albanian, the best I could that it was an accident."

For the past four years, the family claims it has been subjected to threats by other Albanian residents of the Hills.

A six-year resident of the United States, Fr. Camaj was recently ordained as a

priest. The Albanian and the American. There are some people who want to isolate the Albanians from other groups.

"I encourage Albanians to attend high school and college. I am active in religion."

"By promoting religion, education and culture, I am in the way of these people."

"There are some people who want to control and manipulate the Albanian community. They want to promote the ghetto mentality," Fr. Camaj said.

He won't identify all of the persons he believes are responsible for the threats, but he says that one owns a business in the (Continued on page 18A)



**Working out**

Ellen Abramson, 10, of Farmington Hills, is caught in a dramatic pose as she perfects her performance in the graceful but frustrating sport of gymnastics. For a further look at the area answer to Olga Corbett, turn to page 3A. (Staff photo by Harry Mahter)

# Hills fights back in cop pay rift

By STEVE BARBADY  
Farmington editor

City of Farmington Hills officials are appealing a recent circuit court decision which, in effect, could cost taxpayers \$97,000 in back pay to its police officers.

City Atty Terry Brennan labeled union representative Joe Valente's claim that the city must pay up or city administrators would be jailed as "so much warm air."

"The court ruling means nothing. Our appeal means an automatic stay order. Nobody is going to jail," said Brennan at this week's council session.

City Mgr. George Majoros expressed confidence that the Michigan Court of Appeals would overturn the ruling made by Circuit Court Judge Robert Tempin.

Majoros also said Valente is attempting to use the court ruling which affects the old contract from April 1972 to April 1973 for the arbitration ruling presently in session to determine pay for police officers since April 1973.

issue by throwing in the court opinion he's trying to incorporate into the arbitration hearings," said Majoros.

Brennan said the court's ruling and an arbitration decision are two separate matters and shouldn't have an effect on the other.

The arbitration panel has had one meeting and is scheduled to meet again in October to set a pay scale. The board is composed of a city representative, a union representative and a neutral party. In reality, said Majoros, the neutral member, Thomas LoCicero, will determine the pay rate.

The arbitrator's decision could be made within a month, but even then the pay scale may continue if one or the other parties decides to appeal to the court.

"The arbitration panel has to accept either the union or city pay proposal. There isn't any compromise," said Majoros.

"But an appeal of the arbitration board can't be made based on the salary decision. It has to be made on non-economic issues."

While Majoros claimed that LoCicero

"VALENTE IS COMPLICATING THE

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# Candidates map strategy in Congressional battle

By STEVE BARBADY  
Farmington editor

The 11th Congressional U.S. Representative race is revving up with both camps launching high visibility campaigns for their candidates.

Running for the two year term are Democratic incumbent William Brodhead, who is seeking a second term and Republican James Burdick.

Burdick campaign manager Earle Heffley expressed reluctance in talking about campaign strategy, saying he didn't want the Brodhead camp to know what is happening.

"It's just a little too early to reveal our campaign plans," said Heffley. "We want to use the element of surprise on the opposition."

The Brodhead campaign manager Pat Thornton was more than willing to reveal their strategy.

"We never stop recruiting people. There is a job for every volunteer," she said.

Thornton estimates that 700 volunteers presently are combing the district and spreading the Brodhead gospel.

"Money," she said, "is a precious commodity."

The Brodhead campaign organization spent \$10,000 in the primary and will spend an additional \$30,000-\$35,000 in the general election, she says.

"We're not going to outstep the Burdick people by any means," she said. Mrs. Thornton believes the Burdick camp is spending about \$150,000 in its election effort.

Billboard rental is enormous, she said, and Brodhead opposed billboards when he was a state representative.

"One feature came from this year's Brodhead campaign are lawn signs. Last election Brodhead spent \$300 on campaign lawn posters."

"I don't think anyone thinks that a lawn sign makes their property look any better," she said.

The Brodhead volunteers concentrate on going door-to-door to registered voters home in the district. The door campaigners carry literature about the candidate with them.

Mrs. Thornton says that only one mailing will be made during the campaign, the bulk mailing she said will cost them \$11,000.

"Good literature is important. To many persons that one piece of paper is Bill Brodhead," she said.

Throughout his two years in office, Brodhead has conducted a series of neighborhood meetings which, says Mrs. Thornton, has helped persons in identifying with the candidate.

"THE ONLY THING Heffley was willing to concede is that name identification is the main thrust. The Burdick campaign group has a number of blue and white billboards posted throughout the district."

Heffley refused to say how much the Burdick organization is spending or how many persons are working on the campaign.

"All I'll say is that Jim is all over the district. He is making speeches before various groups. Frankly, he's working his tail off."

"WE'RE COMFORTABLE with how we operate and believe in it," she says. Brodhead of was outspoken in his first bid for election in 1974.

"We wouldn't use a billboard even if someone gave it to us," she said.

"The first ones weren't very well attended, but in the second year the attendance really increased," she said.

She estimates that Brodhead has met more than 3,000 residents through these meetings.



Soccer will be one of the popular recreational offerings made this fall by the Farmington Area Recreation Commission.

# Fall recreation agenda launched

"Something for everyone" is the way Farmington Area Recreation Director Doug Gaynor labels this year's offering of scheduled fall events.

Soccer, swimming, racquetball, first aid, and ski touring are among events listed for this year.

All residents of Farmington, Farmington Hills and outlying areas within the Farmington School District are eligible for all of the activities.

Registrations are taken on a first come-first serve basis. Non-residents will be assessed a \$1 additional fee for each class fee listed. Some classes may be cancelled due to insufficient registration.

"The success of our programs in the short time we have been here rests with you, the Farmington area resident, through your participation and concern for a viable, progressive and growing recreation program," says Gaynor.

**BOYS' AND GIRLS SOCCER** is open for those between kindergarten and first grades and second and third grades. Registration deadline is Sept. 17. The fall season games will be played on Saturday morning and all teams will practice at least once a week. The first scheduled game will be Saturday, Oct. 7.

**SWIMMING** instruction for beginning and advanced swimmers will be offered at Farmington and North Farmington High Schools.

Fall registration is Sept. 18, from 9 a.m. to noon. Lessons begin Oct. 2 and run through Nov. 20. The spring session registration is March 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. Lessons will begin March 19 and run through May 21.

The fee for each eight-day session is \$8. Suits and towels must be furnished by participants. Anyone with long hair must wear a bathing cap.

**ADULT BEGINNER SWIM LESSONS** will be at Farmington High School only. The fall session begins Oct. 6 and runs through Nov. 17. Lessons will be from 8:30-9:30 p.m. the spring session will begin March 22 to May 10 at the same time. Fee is \$12. Adult sessions are for persons 18 years and older.

**RECREATION OPEN SWIM** will be at both Farmington and North Farmington High Schools. Fee is 30 cents for children and 75 cents for adults, 18 years and older. The fall sessions are on Wednesdays, from Oct. 6 to Dec. 7. Winter sessions are

on Wednesday, from Jan. 5 to March 18. Spring sessions are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from March 22 to June 7. The family swim is from 7-8:15 p.m. Adult swim is from 8:30-9:45 p.m.

**RACQUETBALL** will be at the Racquetball Courts of Farmington, 34200 Nine Mile. The six-week program will teach beginners and intermediates the basic fundamentals and some finer points of the game.

Lessons run from Sept. 20 to Oct. 27. Mondays' sessions will be from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will cost \$22. Wednesdays' sessions will be from 9:15 a.m. and from 10:11 a.m. Cost is \$27.

A **RACQUETBALL LEAGUE** is being established. Deadline is Sept. 16. The season will consist of a 10-game schedule.

The competitive league will meet on Tuesdays from noon-1 p.m. The recreational group will be on Tuesdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Cost is \$33.

**FIRST AID** will be taught in cooperation with the American Red Cross. It is a seven-week certification course.

To enroll, you should be at least 13 years old, or have completed the seventh grade. The course will be on Thursday, beginning Sept. 23 through Nov. 4, at the Farmington City Hall court chambers. 2000 Liberty Classes will be from 7-10 p.m.

Those interested can register at the recreation commission office at Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. prior to Sept. 21.

Registration fee is \$3, which is waived for senior citizens 60 years or older. The Red Cross handbook and bandages are \$2-40.

**CARDIO-PULMONARY RESUSCITATION** will be presented through the Michigan Heart Association. The course teaches mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and external heart massage that forces the heart to pump blood.

The course will run for three weeks, on Oct. 6, 13 and 20 from 7:10 p.m. in the city hall. Registration fee is \$3. Persons may register at the recreation office before Oct. 6.

Upon successful completion of the (Continued on page 18A)

## Number please? Residents notified

If you live in the northwestern quadrant of Farmington Hills, you may be one of 3,400 persons who will soon receive a new telephone exchange.

The Michigan Bell Telephone Company is changing the exchanges from the 477 numbers to '961' and '333' because of the new facility constructed at Drake and Thirteen Mile, due to open next March.

Those persons having the exchanges switched live in the area bounded by 1496 on the south, Fourteen Mile on the north, Haggerty Road on the west and Farmington Road on the east. A small portion of Thirteen Mile will be residents as far east as Orchard Lake Road.

Although residents are to be notified by the end of the month, they shouldn't worry about being disconnected from friends, says Customer Relations Director Ron Kain.

The new numbers will go into effect the last part of March 1977, when the new phone books come out.

"In fact, business customers already have what their new numbers will be," says Kain. "By the end of September all residence customers will have been notified of their new numbers."

The move notified, says Kain, so they could make up business stationery and cards in advance with the correct numbers.

The phone company will provide change of number information for those persons calling the numbers for a year after the change. In other words, if a person calls an old exchange, a new number will be given through a computer recording.

The new facility, at Drake and Thirteen Mile roads, is being built, says Kain, to facilitate the growth in the northwest section of Farmington Hills.

The present area phone company building is located at Power and Grand River. It will continue to function for the City of Farmington area.

The new electronic central office will provide touch-tone phones and custom calling services.

Before the new central office building for Farmington Hills was constructed, Western Electric system engineers worked with Bell's long range forecasters to determine the precise service needs for the community.

**MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 App. 11 (under 18) \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS CHOICE: BOYS SOCCER BOYS BASKETBALL  
 GIRLS SOCCER GIRLS BASKETBALL  
 RACQUETBALL SKI TOURING  
 LESSONS FAMILY SKI  
 League TEEN SKI  
 FIRST AID THANKSGIVING DAY  
 CPR PARADE  
 ICE SKATING

Your facsimile of this form is acceptable.  
**CHECKS MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION.**  
 FORM: Make payable to Farmington Area Recreation Commission.

NOTE: Mail the above registration form to —  
**FALL/WINTER ACTIVITIES 1976-77**  
 c/o Farmington Area Recreation Commission  
 31555 Eleven Mile Road  
 Farmington Hills, MI 48018

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**THE PEOPLE PLACE**

Marlene Kish, of Tape-Matic Machinery, has attracted more than 55 responses to her help wanted ad:

NEW Sections A  
 Editorial 12  
 Observations Point 12  
 Eccentricities 12  
 Sports Section B  
 Classified Services C/D  
 Section C  
 Business Section E  
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