

# Democrats tangle with last-minute applications

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

While Michigan Democrats untangle the confusion surrounding the institution of their new caucus system, party workers are wrestling with an expected

last minute flurry of returned applications.

The Democratic Party has ruled nationwide that only card voting party members will be allowed to select county and district delegates. Michigan Democrats meet April 26 to select delegates to the party's national convention this August in New York.

Persons who want to participate in the selection were required to have their party membership application submitted by midnight Feb. 26. Letters postmarked by that time were accepted by the party, according to spokeswoman Shirley Gray.

The Detroit office sent out 150,000 membership applications. They expect to have their memberships counted when the last minute mailings arrive by Thursday.

The dread of being inundated by last minute memberships stems from 1976's performance when 8,000 applicant

arrived at the Detroit office of the party on the last day of eligibility. That year the office sent out 180,000 applications.

Persons who have 1979 memberships in the party are eligible for participation in the caucus, according to Aldo Vagnozzi, 17th district coordinator of Sen. Edward Kennedy's local cam-

paign. Precinct delegates are exempt from the party membership rule.

THE CHANGE IN policy bypasses Michigan's open primary which allows voters of any party persuasion to select delegates to the conventions.

"The Michigan open primary no

longer conforms to party rules," said Ms. Gray.

The party was concerned by crossover votes which it believes detracted from allowing the primary to an accurate picture of the party's opinion, according to Ms. Gray.

The 17th district will put into effect the party's rules when it meets at on

April 26 in Mercy College, Detroit to select five delegates and three alternates to the convention. The district includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Redford Township and Southfield.

All those eligible to participate will sign in and indicate their preference for presidential candidate. At the conclusion of the procedure, the preferences will be totaled with uncommitted votes placed in their own category.

On the basis of that tally, delegates to the national convention will be allocated to the candidates or will remain uncommitted.

A candidate must receive at least 15 per cent support from participants to be represented by a caucus during the delegate selection.

EACH CAUCUS then elects a delegate to the convention.

While some have criticized the system as being exclusionary, Democrats take a slightly different view.

"It's been expanded to include party members," said Vagnozzi.

## Soccer league is organized

The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation division is holding a meeting for all adult men who are interested in participating in a soccer league.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. March 4 in Shawwassee School, 30415 Shawwassee.

The meeting will pertain to league formation, team formation, schedule, playing sites and dates and other pertinent information.

## Lutheran pastor is installed

St. John American Lutheran Church, Farmington, will install its first associate pastor on March 2, at 4 p.m. at a special installation service.

The church is located at 23225 Gill. The Rev. Mark Radloff, formerly of Bath, Ohio, will serve with the Rev. Charles Fox, who is St. John's senior pastor.

Radloff received his bachelor's degree from Capital University, Ohio in 1975, with majors in government and political science.

Lutheran Theological Seminary, Minn., in 1979, with a master of divinity degree.

During his seminary training, he served a year of internship at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Helena, Mont., where he was in charge of the youth work for that congregation.

He was ordained on Feb. 10, 1980, by his father in his home congregation, Bethel Lutheran in Bath.

With experience in coaching high school baseball and various community sports activities, Radloff continues his

own participation in sports, particularly baseball, racquetball and skiing.

He also maintains an active interest in politics and government, having been involved in various political campaigns.

Dr. Reginald Hollis, bishop of the Michigan District of the American Lutheran Church, will preach at the installation service on Sunday. Pastor Fox will conduct the service, with the Rev. Bernard Philabaum, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church of Midland, assisting.

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