

Now is time for moderates to rebuild power base

You could see it coming three or four years ago in Farmington Hills — the conservative political sweep, that is.

Most moderates and liberals then in the power clique refused to recognize the trend. Those who did had a difficult time getting anyone to listen.

Last year Joanne Smith, Cathy Jones and Keith Deacon paid the price. They were defeated in the Hills City Council race by the conservative coalition of Jack Burwell, William Lange and Donn Wolf.

Republican moderate Shirley Stadler didn't have a chance against the Reagan-dominated conservative tidal wave.

Two years before that, conservative Joe Alkateeb was swept into power over the likes of moderate-supported Ben Marks.

Early in the decade, 1973-74, candidates like Marks and Stadler would have been assured a council seat. The Wolfs and Alkateeb were looked upon as the fringe — far too conservative to fit the mod-

erate coalition mold.

Today, of course, they are the power elite in Farmington Hills.

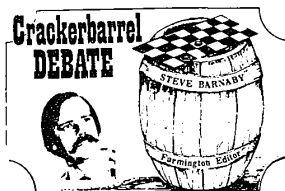
Most of the old moderate coalition of Republicans and Democrats doesn't pull itself together, the conservatives will continue to dominate in next year's council election.

The moderates founded this city. They wrote its charter, sold it to the residents and set the city on its moderate course.

BUT LIKE MANY who are enjoying the security of power, the moderates became overconfident, even lazy. They took their power for granted and lost it.

American political power emanates from the grass roots. For years, while the moderates have been resting on their laurels, the conservatives have concentrated on the grass roots.

In short, Ronald Reagan's election was nearly



foreordained because the inscrutable conservatives had the patience to organize and see it that the Wolfs and Alkateeb were elected.

Today, on the local non-partisan level, the moderate coalition is a shambles. Many of those who

built this city have dropped out of the public scene. Some have moved out of the community. Others who remain just don't participate.

The remaining moderate activists are hanging on by a frazzled thread which could break at any time.

In the coming months and years this community is going to get its fill of fundamentalist conservative lobby groups, like Moral Majority.

Moderate candidates will be faced with the conservative issues of prayer in school, sex education and the rest of the fundamentalist liturgy.

Local politicians like School Board trustees Michael Shipice and Helen Prutow will come under the gun.

THE TIME IS NOW for the moderates to reorganize and plan for the future, to rebuild grass roots organizations and recruit strong candidates.

If they don't, they only will have themselves to blame.

Albanians set sights on new Hills church structure

The move by a half-century-old Albanian Orthodox parish into Farmington Hills carries with it the hope of growth, and the realization that the church has found new neighbors and friends.

The parishoners of St. Thomas Albanian Orthodox Church hope to conduct the first service in the new building, located on 10 Mile west of Middlebelt, on Christmas.

But even if construction delays the opening of the building, the parish has already found a good neighbor in St. Clare Roman Catholic Church.

"They've been wonderful," said Victor Chacho, a parishoner of St. Thomas' and an engineer working on the new church.

When the parish conducted its groundbreaking ceremony, neighboring St. Clare opened its social hall for the occasion, said Chacho, a Southfield resident.

With the cooperation of the neighboring parish, the new church was able to apply for a waiver to eliminate the need to construct a berm or wall between the two buildings as city code requires. The parish of St. Clare agreed the barrier between the two churches was unnecessary, Chacho said.

St. Thomas was first established as a parish in 1929 in Detroit by Albanian immigrants coming west from New England who wanted to form their own ethnic parish. They selected St. Thomas as their patron saint and conducted religious services and social events at various sites until 1943.

THAT YEAR the parish bought a church building on 14th Street in Detroit. In 1956 the parish built its own

church on Joy and Oakman in Detroit.

The church is a member of the Detroit archdiocese of the Orthodox Church of America, formed in 1971 and including the Russian, Albanian, Macedonian and Romanian Orthodox Churches. The churches in America are independent of the churches in Europe.

The new church building seats more persons than presently in the congregation but Chacho is confident that the 230 seats will one day be filled.

"We're looking to the future," he said. "We're looking for growth."

The Farmington Hills site is close to the majority of the parish's active members, Chacho said.

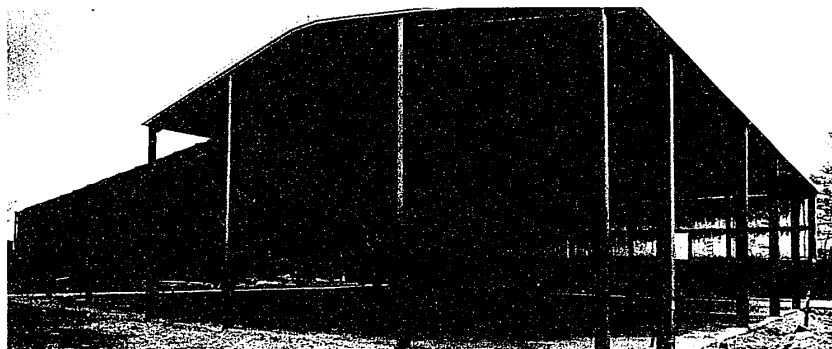
The one-story church building is designed to be comfortable for its older members while providing room for more activity. Unlike the church's Detroit building, the new one does not have any stairs leading into the church or the social hall, Chacho said.

The building is designed to be energy efficient with three separate heating units for the different portions of the building. The spaced units allow one portion of the building to be heated without warming unused rooms, Chacho said.

The church and its social hall are housed in a long, one-story building with a porch sheltering the facade.

IT IS BEING built with ore-fabricated steel panels in which Chacho's Twin Eagle Shelters, Inc. specializes. The front of the church proper will be lined with more traditional stone panels.

The steel paneling, usually used for warehouse and shopping mall construction, is not wholly unusual for a church,



The new Albanian Orthodox Church building is being constructed on 10 Mile, west of Middlebelt. Parishioners hope to celebrate Christmas in the new structure. (Staff photo)

Chacho said.

Working with architect Ivan Cutbert of Dearborn, Chacho has helped in

the design of the building, which makes use of insulation in the walls and ceiling to cut down heating costs.

When the church opens, a search for a new pastor will begin. Until the archdiocese appoints a new leader for the

parish, the Rev. Basil Karpalenia of St. Innocent Albanian Orthodox Church in Detroit is filling that role.

Fournier appointed as dietary executive

Jerry L. Fournier has been appointed as Hospital Dietary Service executive vice president.

Previously Group Vice President of

HDS, he will oversee the operations and sales division.

Fournier received his B.A. Degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional

Management from Michigan State University and has been involved in health care food management, specifically with HDS, since 1969. Prior positions

included food service management positions in the public and military sectors of the industry. He is a resident of Farmington Hills.

INSIDE ANGLES

BY LOUISE OKRUTSKY

ONCE AGAIN the Farmington Artists Club is offering the works of its artist-members for exhibit and sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 21-22 and from noon-5 p.m. Nov. 23 at Mercy Center, gate four on 11 Mile east of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Admission and refreshments are free.

THE NORTH FARMINGTON High School athletic booster club announces that its day at the Great Scott supermarket in Farmington Hills netted the club \$4,328. Of course, the club thanks everyone who participated in the supermarket fund-raiser. IA sends the booster club its very own salute: rah, rah, rah, rah, rah, rah, rah.

FOR THOSE WHO WANT to send packages to persons in the military overseas, the post office supplies the following deadlines: Nov. 21: SAM mail to Europe and the Far East. Nov. 24: SAM mail to Greenland and Iceland as well as surface mail to Greenland. Nov. 28: PAL mail to Europe and the Far East. The following deadlines pertain to civilian mail: Nov. 28: air parcels to North and Northwest Africa, Australia, the Mid-East, Southeast Africa and West Africa. The Post Office assures customers that keeping within these mailing dates assures delivery by Christmas.

ALRIGHT all you turkeys, listen up, as Duke Wayne used to say. The fourth annual turkey trot cross country run sponsored by the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department will begin at 10 a.m. Nov. 15 at San Marino Municipal Golf Course, 26634 Halsted between Grand River and 12 Mile. Registration before the event is preferred. To register, visit the parks and recreation department at the Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 11 Mile near Orchard Lake Road. There will be on site registration beginning at 9 a.m. the day of the meet.

Registration fee for persons 17 years old and younger is \$2 for early registration and \$3 the day of the race. For adults 18 years old and older early registration is \$4 and day-of-the-race registration is \$5.

The race will be conducted in the following divisions: midget, boys and girls under 11 years old running one-half mile; juniors, boys and girls 12-14 running 1 1/4 miles; teens, boys and girls 15-17 running three miles; adults, men and women 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45 and older running three miles.

The midget, juniors and teen races begin at 10 a.m. The adults begin running at 10:30 a.m. There will be ribbons for all participants. Medals will be given to persons finishing in the first three places. Turkeys will be given to the first place adult.

finishers, and cornish hens will be given to first place youth finishers.

Races will be run as rapidly as possible rain or shine. The awards ceremony follows the end of the 10:30 a.m. race. Practice will be allowed the day of the race only beginning at 9 a.m. For further information call the parks and recreation office at 474-6115.

ANOTHER THANKSGIVING DAY EVENT is the Wizard of Oz at the Music Hall through Adults for Kids. Tickets are \$4.95 each through the Farmington-based organization. For further information call Adults for Kids at 855-3252.

ADULTS FOR KIDS also offer a noon performance of Holiday on Ice Nov. 22 at the Joe Louis Arena. Tickets are \$4.95, a discount over the regular \$8 price. For further information call Brian Sprague at 855-3252.

ANOTHER HOLIDAY show begins from noon-5:30 p.m. Nov. 23 until Jan. 3 at Pewabic Pottery, 10125 East Jefferson, Detroit.

YOU SAY YOU don't know what happened to all your time? You say you want to find out where time has gone? The University of Detroit's continuing education department sponsors a day-long seminar on the effective use of time from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Southfield Learning Center, 18575 West 9 Mile between Southfield Road and Evergreen. Participants in the seminar will learn to eliminate time-wasting habits and acquire time-saving techniques that will extend their effectiveness through all phases of work. The seminar will be taught by Penny Griffith, a management training consultant. For registration and more information, call the University of Detroit Division of Continuing Education at 927-1025.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Todd Snively and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Snively of Farmington Hills. Todd, an airman first class, stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas for training in cryptographics, was honored as Airman of the Month for May, as well as making the dean's list. He has tutored students in training and was specially recognized for his tutoring skills. Snively, who enlisted in February is stationed at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany. To his proud parents and to Snively, himself, IA sends a singing salute: (readers are invited to join in) "Off we go into the wild blue yonder. . ."

REMEMBER: Mail service will be on a holiday schedule Tuesday for Veterans Day.

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