

Marks, Sever renew their political battle

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

To Farmington Hills Planning Commissioner Den Marks, the city council is burdened with partisan politics.

To businessman Terry Sever, the council is wrought with "personality politics."

Both campaign veterans have thrown their hats into the political ring to win a seat on the Farmington Hills City Council.

Marks and Sever will be running against Councilman Robert Anzlovor, who was appointed in January to fill the remainder of Fred Hughes' term.

Hughes resigned to take a job promotion in New Jersey. Both Sever and Marks unsuccessfully made their bid in January for the council appointment.

WHILE MARKS and Sever differ in

their assessment of the current council, both say they are running for election to add a new dimension to the council.

"Very honestly, I think the council is too political. They are partisan," said Marks, a six-year planning commission member. "That's probably the thing that bothers me most."

Sever, on the other hand, sees the council's problem differently.

"I don't think there's partisan politics. But there is personality politics," said Sever, a three-time unsuccessful contender for council.

A charter commission member, Marks said he wanted Farmington Hills to be different than other communities that are rampant with party politics. The intent of the charter for the city to be a "business community has become abrogated."

Marks said he wanted decisions to be made without the benefit of Republican

or Democrat politics. That's why the ward system was rejected, Marks said.

Sever, on the other hand, feels the council needs analyzing. "If elected, he said that's what he intends to do."

Referring to the council's discussion and voting decision on Monday to levy 8 mills in 1984-85 rather than the administration's recommended 3.8 mills, Sever said, "I am really disappointed that we got down to setting the millage, and the council members seemed more interested in promoting their own budgetary ideas rather than uniting for the city's benefit."

"I am as a citizen, not a politician, extremely displeased with the personal conflicts and games at city council," Sever added.

Marks' opinion of the council's budget adoption this week also was unfavorable.

"It was a bad business judgment,"

Marks said. "The mills didn't mean they would spend it. The council has the last

word on the mills."

MARKS' RIVAL, ANZLOVOR, a former planning commissioner, voted against the proposed 8.5 mills, saying that would cost approximately \$200,000 designated for the loss of a gas processing facility. The city hall could be deleted, he said, and was "not adequately supported" for the 1984-85 budget. Because only preliminary recommendations of type of system the city should have been provided.

Anzlovor's reaction Monday, he said, bore out what he feels is the "middle-of-the-road" posture on the council.

"I don't subscribe to the Don Wolf school of legislation in which all tax increases should go to taxpayers for a vote," or the idea of "unilaterally taxing" whenever a council feels it necessary, Anzlovor said.



Den Marks



Terry Sever

Incumbent wins

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home precinct, number one, where the Farmington planning commissioner walked away with 380 votes. Prutow placed second with 254 votes, Buck third with 131, Fitzpatrick fourth with 122 and Starrett last with 84. Total voters in that precinct was 535.

But the real sign of victory came in results from the northwest quadrant. Prutow's home district, the second precinct, where Abernethy again came in first with 293 votes. Prutow was close behind with 288.

Buck made his strongest showing with 167 votes in the second precinct. Although winning 167 votes — her best showing of the day — Fitzpatrick had hoped to do better in her home base district. Starrett placed last with 75 votes. Total voters in the second were 541.

The third precinct, the northeast

quadrant, gave Abernethy his poorest showing. He placed third behind Starrett, who took first, and Prutow, who placed second. But, fortunately, for Abernethy, the third precinct also had the lowest voter turnout, with 102 registered voters casting ballots. The third precinct is Starrett's home ground.

The final tally in that district was Starrett, 48; Prutow, 41; Abernethy, 40; Buck, 25; and Fitzpatrick, 23.

Precinct four, the southeast quadrant, reporting in with 244 votes, also favored Abernethy. The final vote showed Abernethy, 146; Prutow, 125; Fitzpatrick, 74; Buck, 50 and Starrett, 48.

The absentee ballots, 109 voters, showed the closest tally. Abernethy and Buck tied for first with 44 votes each; Prutow, 42; Fitzpatrick 39; and Starrett, 32.

Abernethy will replace incumbent James McCilloy, who chose to step down.



RANDY DORR/staff photographer

Coming in second in the school board race was Helen Prutow (left), who is consanguineated by Regeno Schulman, the wife of school board president Lewis Schulman.

C'ville contest spurs few voters

By Teri Banne
staff writer

The public stayed away in droves.

Perhaps the best explanation for the extremely low turnout in Monday's school board election in the Clarenceville School District was that voters simply "forgot" there was one, according to a couple of the candidates.

After all the ballots were counted, there were 193 voters out of a field of 4,028 registered voters Monday. That represented a percent of the voting public. The district includes parts of Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford Township.

Re-elected to the board for four years were incumbents Michael Mancoske with 123 votes and Richard Wood with 109 votes. Linda Ahnert, a homemaker and long-time school volunteer, was elected to fill the remaining one-year-term of former trustee Lee McDowell, who resigned last year.

Ahnert, a political newcomer, was unchallenged. She received 127 votes.

Four-year challengers Daniel Bibik and George Roberts filled out the field with 77 and 33 votes, respectively.

"A lot of people said they didn't remember an election was coming up," Mancoske said. Mancoske will begin his second term. "We really haven't (pub-

lic) school board elections until now."

We talked about it last night. We thought next time we'd put up bulletin boards in front of the school buildings.

"If the district didn't have a large voter turnout, neither was there much politicking before the election," said Geraldine Kelly, superintendent David McDowell's secretary and long-time district employee.

"We had a race," she said, explaining that there were challengers this year, unlike in last year's election. "But they do no campaigning whatsoever."

"The only campaign information the people get is what you put in the paper. We have no active campaigning in Clarenceville. Otherwise, the people seem to go along with what's here."

"I guess they must be satisfied. In Livonia (Public Schools), they have posters all over the place. We don't have anything like that in Clarenceville. So, there's really not a race."

In addition to the lack of campaigning, the poor turnout also could be attributed to the lack of "hot issues" this year and to "that time of year" (summer vacations), Ahnert said.

"Some of my friends said they knew who was going to get in so they just didn't bother," Ahnert said.

All three winners in Monday's election began their terms.

Walled Lake incumbent loses

Two political newcomers will take seats this summer on the Walled Lake Board of Education where they face the challenge of solving problems they charged their predecessors with creating.

Angry voters in the Walled Lake School District, which includes the western part of West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills, evicted four-year incumbent Mario Tozzi in Monday's election, filling his seat and a four-year vacancy with challengers Dan McMullen and Ronald Servold.

Approximately 44-percent, or 1,414, of the district's 31,375 voters cast ballots in the election.

McMullen and Servold, who have attended only a handful of school board meetings, charged the board during their campaigns with creating a strained relationship between it and the administration, not promoting staff morale and projecting a negative image in the district.

The top vote getters of the five candidates, McMullen tallied 707 votes and Servold garnered 666.

Incumbent Tozzi netted the fewest votes, 178.

TWO OTHER newcomers were Laurence Green, who got 578 votes, and Sam Wolfe, 507.

Tozzi could not be reached for comment Tuesday. He also is a candidate for supervisor in Commerce Township.

But Wolfe, who's rarely missed a

board meeting in 3 1/2 years and is an active volunteer on the Community Education Advisory Council, expressed disappointment over his defeat.

"I spent 3 1/2 years wasting my time; the voters don't want anyone with experience," said Wolfe, a West Bloomfield resident. "I gave my time, my blood, my sweat to this district."

memory lane

Memories, memories... have we got the memories, and we'd like to share them with you. Using local newspaper files, we're digging up generous slices of life in the Farmington community from 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago.

JUNE 15, 1944 —

THE ENTHUSIASM for bond drives apparently was wearing thin among war-weary residents. The response to the fifth "War Loan Drive" was "not as great as it should be. Many promises have been secured, but actual sales were low," reported the Farmington Enterprise. In the first 11 days of the drive, only \$18,993 worth of bonds had been sold despite the efforts of bond sale chairman Joseph Himmelsbach and his crew. Three times a week the lights in the Civic Theater were brought up and a pitch was made to movie enthusiasts to buy bonds. "This week on Sunday evening everyone in the theater is promised an extra special treat," said the paper. But it was unable to report what it was because it was a "deep, dark secret."

MR. AND MRS. JOE DEVIENNOT and Mrs. and Mrs. Carl Goers were lauded for being in charge of making sure that flags were placed on the graves of all six cemeteries around the city and township.

TRACE CONROY was appointed as a city commissioner to fill the unexpired term of Max Hulett. At that same meeting the city launched a sidewalk program as well as adopting its 1944-45 budget — \$39,937.

THAT DAY'S EDITORIAL lamented the fact that while the recent invasion of Europe saw soldiers fighting for freedom, 60,000 workers were out on strike around the nation, a 42 percent increase over the previous year. "Labor is asked who assume their responsibility as soberly as they assume their power cannot condone such short-sighted selfishness at America's expense," said the editorial.

JUNE 10, 1954 —

LIBRARY EXPANSION was on the minds of city and township residents. A five-member committee was appointed to study the feasibility of expansion after a meeting between the city council, township board, the Masonic Lodge, the library board and the Friends of the Library. Members on the committee were Edwin Moeneman, Mrs. Clara Blum, Harold Whiting, Ernest Blanchard and James Cavanaugh.

A MAJOR STORM hit Farmington, causing "major confusion" in the downtown area, according to several reports. A tree was blown down, blocking traffic at Grand River and Cam. Westbound traffic was rerouted on Shawwassee and westbound traffic on Oakland. Michigan Bell reported that 147 telephone lines were knocked out during the storm.

which had taken place the Saturday before.

ALTA LOMA Subdivision was just a dream on this date, but a very real dream for developer Devereux Fleming. The plot for the first unit already had been recorded and sewer and water installations completed. Sidewalks and streets were under construction. The first unit was on the east side of the subdivision. Also in progress was expansion of the Warner farms and the Bel-Aire subdivisions.

JUNE 18, 1964 —

A DEBATE broke out on the Farmington City Council over the reappointment of John Allen to the city's planning commission. Although his appointment was approved by a 3-1 vote, Councilman Henry Forrest objected, saying that Allen shouldn't be allowed to serve both on the planning commission and the library board.

SUGAR CUBES you remember, the ones you took to fight polio. Well, during the week of June 18, 1964, some 49,614 of those little cubes were doled out to the community. It was the second anti-polio vaccine to be given this way in the community. Chairing the project was Betty Funk of Stamen Acres. The Farmington PTA aided in the project by getting more than 300 volunteers to help out with the project.

A STRIKE BY underground construction workers throughout the state put a temporary halt to the work on water lines in seven special assessment districts throughout the Farmington Township area. At the time of the stoppage, the project was 90-percent completed. But it caused a special problem for developers in the industrial park who wanted to start operating.

JUNE 13, 1974

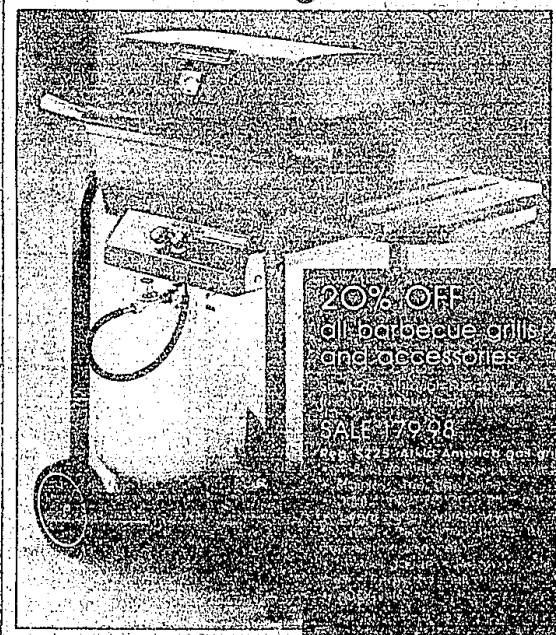
A NEW CAREER was on the horizon for Margaret Schaefer. Although few knew that at the time, it was announced that District Judge Michael Ward's appeal for another seat on the 41st District Court had been approved by the state. The district at that time had one of the largest caseloads in Oakland County.

IT WAS A GLOOMY day at the Farmington School District administrative offices. Educators had just lost a bid for a four-mill tax increase. The night of the defeat they already decided to have another election on July 30. The proposal was defeated by 128 votes. It was the fourth time voters had turned down the requested increase.

THAT SAME ELECTION week, saw Ann Struble, William Grayson and Ann Rowley elected to the school board. All three winners asked they support another attempt at passing the millage.

LOCAL TAXPAYERS were happy to find out that they now could pay property tax bill at the local bank.

Anniversary Sale



20% OFF
all barbecue grills
and accessories

SALE 179.98