

Amberg is bumped from judge race

The Board of State Canvassers has disqualified a West Bloomfield attorney from the Aug. 5 Oakland County Circuit Court election.

Richard J. Amberg Jr., 34, failed to file enough nominating petition signatures, said Howard McCowan of the Secretary of State's Elections Division.

McCowan said Amberg filed 382 petitions and claimed 3,860 nominating signatures of registered voters. A canvass count revealed 3,095 signatures, 176 short of the required 3,272, McCowan said.

"There just wasn't enough signatures, that's all," he said.

Amberg said in a written statement that "an unfortunate clerical error has resulted in a number of my nominating petitions not being accounted for." Amberg is a resident of Orchard Lake.

THE REMAINING candidates for the only contested circuit court seat are: 51st District Court Judge Robert C. Anderson of Waterford Township; James F. McCarthy of Pontiac, an assistant Oakland County prosecutor; and Michael S. Freud, a Southfield attorney who lives in Keego Harbor.

The three will compete in the Aug. 5 primary, and the two who finish on top will face a runoff in November.

The candidates seek to succeed Judge William J. Beer on the Oakland circuit bench. Beer, 71, is fighting a state law ordering judges over 70 to retire.

His request to be placed on the ballot has been turned down by the Michigan Supreme Court and the state Court of Appeals.

Beer is seeking to overturn the mandatory retirement law in the U.S. Supreme Court. He is also considering a write-in campaign for 18th District congressman, a seat now held by U.S. Rep. James Blanchard.

Blanchard is the only Democratic candidate. He is opposed by Republican Betty Suida of Royal Oak.

Train to Toledo aids travel to the East

Daily evening passenger train service between Detroit and Toledo will begin Aug. 3, according to U.S. Rep. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth.

Amtrak will continue one of its regular Chicago-to-Detroit trains through to Toledo, which will connect with an overnight New York City-bound train.

Pursell, Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., and state officials had been negotiating with Amtrak officials for the new service since last summer.

THE NEW Toledo service is primarily for passengers on the Chicago-Detroit train to connect with the East Coast-bound run, which also stops at Buffalo, Albany and Boston.

There have been no Detroit-Toledo trains since the late 1960s, said Scott Herick of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Detroit, said Herick, has been a "dead end" because there is no direct train service east.

He said the Detroit-Toledo connection is the first phase of more eastbound train service. The state is negotiating for a "more direct run" to the east across southern Canada, said Herick, who is manager of intercity service development for M-DOT.

East Coast-bound train passengers in Detroit have had to take a bus to Toledo to connect with the New York-bound train. "It was much better than nothing," Herick said.

THE TOLEDO BOUND train will leave Chicago at 11:55 a.m. daily. It will arrive in Dearborn at 6:04 p.m.; Detroit, at 6:40 p.m.

The train will leave Detroit's Vernor St. station at 7:05 p.m. and arrive in Toledo at 8:55 p.m. The East Coast-bound train arrives in Toledo at 9:10 p.m. and leaves at 9:25.

On the return trip, the train will arrive in Toledo at 10:15 a.m. daily. The Detroit-Chicago train will leave Toledo at 10:30 a.m.; arrive in Detroit at 12:20 p.m. and in Dearborn at 12:35 p.m.

There are currently three daily passenger trains between Detroit and Chicago, plus a daily commuter run between Detroit, Dearborn and Ann Arbor.

July Fourth good time for tourism

Tourism operators are hoping that lightning will strike a second time over the Fourth of July holiday and add to the current surge in Michigan vacation travel, which began with the successful Memorial Day weekend, according to Automobile Club of Michigan.

Michiganians drove 648 million miles to record the second busiest Memorial Day weekend ever while spending levels were an average 7 percent over the 1979 holiday. Tourism this holiday should be at least 6 percent above Memorial Day.

If good weather holds, the Michigan Department of Transportation predicts motorists in Michigan should drive 710 million miles over the upcoming four-day holiday, 62 million miles more than over the Memorial Day weekend.

That mileage total still is below the 765 million miles driven in 1977, the last time a 76-hour July 4th holiday occurred. Last year's mid-week Independence Day holiday period lasted only 30 hours.

This year's holiday begins at 6 p.m. Thursday (July 3) and runs through midnight Sunday (July 6).

"Current routing requests from our members show that the move away from long-distance travel and towards Michigan vacations should be a summer-long trend," stated Auto Club Touring Manager Joseph Ratke.

While overall travel is down 1 percent through May and routings to popular western destinations are off as much as 13 percent, requests for Michigan vacation information are up nearly 10 percent over last year, Ratke said. "Upper Peninsula routings increased 18 percent compared with a year ago."

Boat safety is slated

By LEM MESESE
Outdoors writer

A pleasure boating safety class for young boaters is being offered next week by the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

It will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the civil defense room of the Law Enforcement Building, 1201 N. Telegraph, just north of Elizabeth Lake Road in Pontiac.

"State law requires a child between the ages of 12 and 16, while

operating a boat equipped with a six or more horsepower engine, to be accompanied by an adult or have in their possession a valid boating safety certificate," said Sgt. Thomas J. Lendon of the sheriff's marine division.

Such a certificate will be issued to youngsters who complete the course. It's free, but call the marine division at 858-4991 to pre-register.

HANDICAPPED residents of the Farmington community, Southfield

outdoors

and Oak Park will have a day at Kensington Metropark beach thanks to the Northwest Therapeutic Recreation Association.

The event is July 10. Activities will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and include a hot dog roast, games, boating and swimming. The fee of \$1 per person covers transportation, lunch, beverage and game prizes.

Sue Henige, coordinator intern for the association, said, "The day will

provide the handicapped with information about additional summer recreation programs, a chance to socialize and — most of all — to have fun."

Friends and families of the handicapped also may attend. If it rains, the beach party will be rescheduled to July 24.

"Other activities we offer include swimming, softball, tennis lessons, putt-putt golf, camping, bowling and

trips to baseball games, Oakland County's wave pool, the Detroit Zoo and much more," she added.

For bus schedule information, call Sue Henige 474-8423 or 474-6115.

KENSINGTON Metropark on I-96 near Milford will offer a nature walk entitled "Log Life" at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, July 6.

Naturalist Gordon Lonie will lead a hike to the nature trail's stumps and trees, which contain many plants and animals most people never notice. Bring your field glasses or magnifying glasses.

The program is free, but call the nature center at 685-1561 to register.

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