

## Prosecutor race draws audiences

The four most popular speakers on the political circuit this month are Dick Thompson, Jack McDonald, Rick Fessler and Jeff Leib. They're running for the Republican nomination for Oakland County prosecutor to succeed retiring L. Brooks Patterson. You can hear them:

• At 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 20, in Machus Red Fox, 6676 Telegraph (south of Maple), Bloomfield Township. Sponsor is the GOP 300 Club. "Seating is very limited," said Pat Evans, who is accepting breakfast checks (\$10 for members, \$15 for non) at Oakland Republican headquarters, 1877 Orchard Lake Road Suite 104, Pontiac 48055.

• At 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 21, in Birmingham Unitarian Church, 551 Woodward (at Lene Plu), Bloomfield Hills. Sponsors are the League of Women Voters and the Child Abuse and Neglect Council. This one is free.

It will also feature a fifth candidate for prosecutor, Barry Kraemer, who has received little attention because he's unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

• 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 26, in Senior House, 45192 West Road, Walling Lake. All five candidates will speak. Make reservations (at \$6 for the breakfast) by July 19 by calling the West Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce at 626-3636. Four candidates are sponsoring the breakfast forum.

THE YOUNG Republicans will hear state Rep. Paul Hillegonds

when they meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 19, in Machus Red Fox, 725 S. Hunter, Birmingham. It's open to the public.

Hillegonds, R-Holland, is minority leader in the Michigan House, and a lot of GOP politicians are eyeing him for leadership and higher office.

ANOTHER OAKLAND County name has popped up in the field of a dozen lawyers and judges seeking two new seats on the state Court of Appeals.

Paul J. Fischer, an assistant county prosecutor, is on the ballot in the Aug. 2 primary. A former law clerk for Judge Hilda Gage, Fischer was in private practice in Southfield before joining Patterson's staff five years ago.

That 2nd appeals court district covers Oakland and 14 other southern and eastern Michigan counties.

A FUNDRAISER for Probate Court candidate George J. Fulkerson will start at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 27, in the atrium of Liberty Bank-Oakland, 801 W. Big Beaver, Troy. The cocktail reception runs until 7:30.

Donation is \$100. For reservations, call Beverly Strang at 362-1300 or Beverly Fulkerson at 646-6968.

A Bloomfield Township resident, Fulkerson is seeking the "O'Brien seat" on the Probate Court. He and appointed Judge Sandra Silver are unopposed for two nominations in the Aug. 2 primary. Their contest is Nov. 8.

## 'Proud of role' Patterson hits lawyer-critics in Joelle case

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

While Circuit Judge Richard Keim ponders whether to allow a brain-damaged 12-year-old girl to die, a political battle over the prosecutor's handling of the case raged outside the Oakland County courtroom.

"I am absolutely proud of the role my office has played," said Prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson. "My office was not unfair to the family."

Patterson called a news conference Tuesday to reply to criticisms from attorneys for Joelle Rosebush's parents; a court-appointed attorney, George Googasian of Rochester Hills; and Jeffrey Leib, a political rival of Patterson's chief assistant.

Joelle lies in the Georgian Nursing Home in Bloomfield Township, a quadriplegic since a January 1987 traffic accident that severed her spine at the neck and left her unable to breathe, eat or control her movements.

Her parents, Jacqueline and Francis Rosebush of Lapeer County, decided to end her artificial life support. Patterson's office sought a court restraining order.

THE CHARGES and Patterson's replies:

• The prosecutor shouldn't have brought the case.  
Patterson said a convicted murderer gets at least six court reviews before execution. "All I asked was for one judge to review Joelle's case," he said. Under questioning, Patterson said he might appeal a ruling in favor of the parents, not because he expected a reversal in the state Court of Appeals, but to get "a definitive ruling from a higher court" on a topic where Michigan has little case law.

• Assistant prosecutor Michael Modelski referred to ending life support systems as "killing." Attorneys Andrew Broder and Suzanne Tomlanovich called it "mean and vicious

conduct." Googasian called them "sharp and inappropriate words."

Patterson said "Modelski would have none of their euphemisms" about "de-venting." He quoted state law as saying death occurs when a physician finds irreversible cessations of breathing, circulation and brain functions.

Patterson criticized Googasian for not even listening to the prosecutor's case — "there is no medical testimony this child is brain-dead." He said Googasian felt the prosecutor should consult after hearing the parents' case.

JEFFREY LEIB, a Southfield-based attorney running for prosecutor against Patterson's chief assistant, Richard Thompson, accused Thompson of running "a media circus" and "dragging the family through the media circus of a hearing."

Thompson and Leib are among four rivals for the Republican nomi-

nation to succeed Patterson. They were interviewed separately by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers editors.

Patterson and Thompson both said they called no press conference when they filed their court action.

Thompson said a reporter discovered the paperwork in the clerk's office. The prosecutor's office had been contacted by a lawyer who said nurses were upset because they believed Joelle was showing signs of improvement.

Patterson and Modelski said Joelle's attendants, though not medical doctors, had spent "months" with her while doctors spent a total of 30 minutes with her.

"Doctors don't want lawyers second-guessing them," said Patterson. "Why didn't they ask (attendants), 'Do you have a set of eyes? Do you have a set of ears?' They didn't ask those questions because they didn't want the answers."

## Art show added to old car races

Spectators will see the thrill of racing through art at the Meadow Brook Historic Races first automotive art exhibit Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 6-7.

Six automotive artists from around the country will show their finest original works featuring early model sports cars and performance vehicle competitions. Works are drawings, paintings and sculpture.

The automotive fine art exhibit and sale will be open to spectators and participants of the Porsche dealers association's Meadow Brook Historic Races at Waterford Hills Race Track, on the grounds of the Oakland County Sportsman's Club in Clarkston.

The historic races are held each year in conjunction with the prestigious Meadow Brook Concours d'El-

egance, Aug. 5-7 in Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester.

TICKETS FOR the Meadow Brook Historic Races Aug. 5-7 are \$7 per day or \$12 for a Saturday and Sunday ticket.

Friday is a free admission day when all race groups will run practice trials. Discount tickets are available at Detroit area Porsche dealers.

The 1987 poster artist, Jack Juravle of Lake Orion, will show his works, along with David Lord of In-

dianapolis and sculptor Larry Braun of Loveland, Col. All are members of the Automotive Fine Art Society.

William S. Couch Jr. of Rochester has exhibited with Hot Rod Heritage, a series of fine arts exhibits featured at automotive special events nationwide, as well as the Music Hall Formula One Grand Prix Ball in 1987 and 1988.

Also exhibiting will be Peter Simon of Baltimore. Some of Simon's recent commissions include the Bahama Grand Prix poster and the Mille Miglia poster.

## Court trains volunteers

Oakland Probate Court will hold training and orientation sessions for volunteers who work with children age 6-16.

Times are 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursdays, July 21 and 28. All sessions are held in the Pro-

bate Court conference on the second floor of the Oakland County Courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac. Kevin Threault, volunteer coordinator, can be contacted during business hours at 858-0041 for information on the program.

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