Patterson from page A7

cow," he said, referring to Oak ; land's sending billions of dollars to Lansing, while getting little in exchange. He estimates the county gets about 55 cents back for every dollar it pays in taxes, although the exact figures vary.

back for every boldar it pags at the act of gures vary.

Toakland will always be a doner county, Patterson said. As a prosperous county, it will always pay more in taxes than it receives in road funds, mental listalt dollars or other state bendered to the said of the said ways at the said ways

Patterson, 57, is a graduate of both the University of Detroit and the U of D Law School. He was Oakland County Prosecutor for almost two decades before

deciding not to run in 1988.

He and wife Kathy live in Waterford, It's a second marriage for both, and each has two grown children.

How to vote

Just because you are unable to get to a voting booth for the Aug. 6 primary does not mean you voice can't be heard.

Individuals eligible to vote by absentee ballot can obtain their ballot by visiting their local clerk's office by 4 p.m. Aug. 5. People who wish to obtain an absent voter ballot by mail must submit a signed ballot request their city or township clerk no later than 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3.

To vote in the Aug. 6 primary, individuals must be 18 years old on or before Aug. 6, A Michigan resident.

Hughes continued from A12

example, does Oakland County exit little money for roads when its residents pay so much in gasoline taxes? Why does the county get so little back from the best of the county get so little back from the best of the county get so little back from the instate taxes?

The incumbent is too comfortable in the job, Hughes claims. That's why he insasts voters should support him. "I'll bring a fresh when to government, he said. "I'll insist on more accountablity and I won't stand for the status quo."

Hughes, a computer science graduate of Kent State University, promises to downsize government much the same way Kmart downsized its work force in order to be more competitive in the

to be more competitive in the

to be more competitive in the market.

Tel roll up my sleeves and dig in, he said. Privatization can be a workable selution for some problems and downizing would work for others.

But he'd shake things up and be a voice for all those disenchanted voters out there who believe, as Hughes does, that the system has failed. Hughes said he doesn't expect to spend much money in the

campaign. "I could spend thou-sands of dollars and not dent the name recognition of the | neum-bent," he said.

bent, he said.

But values count for something, Hughes insisted, Although he is not a member of the Christian Coalition, the chalenger said his values are similar. He's against cuthanasia and casino gambling, He's against abortion, especially partial-bith abortions.

abortions.

Hughes believes government

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should curtail its role in the lives of taxpayers. But he also believes that churches should do more. That's why he's active in the Outreach Program at St. John Lutheran Church where he and his family are members. Kmart is nore than a job for Hughes, it's e way of life. He started with the company as a part-time worker while studying at Kont State and when he graduated, he moved into the ranks

of the executives.

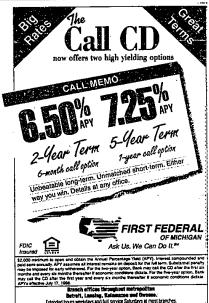
He even met his wife Syndi at Kmart where she was also part of the maneagement team. When their first son, Nick, was born, five years ago, Syndi worked, part time. When daughter Keli, now 2, was bort, Syndi opted to stay home.

"It wasn't easy going from two salaries to one, he reconsty told the Oakland County Taxpayers Association. But that was our choice. We downsized our cars, our budget and our lifestyle."









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