Challenger's bid for SEMTA seat falls short

SEMTA's establishment survived a stiff challenge as Oakland County member R.J. Alexander of Bloomfield Township was re-elected to the board of the seven-county public transportation authority.

of the seven-county public transporta-tion authority,
"R.J. is an institution," said Troy Councilman Randy Husk after his un-successful but surprisingly strong ef-fort to wis one of three Oakland seats on the 15-member board.
The general assembly of the South-east Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) gave Alexander a 38-30 vic-tory for a new three-year term on the SEMTA board.

"A few people are getting together to make agreements the rest don't want," Huak said of the SEMTA board's effort to reach a consensus agreement with top Detroit and tri-county leaders over transit plans and lazes.
"I would wote the positions the way the people want them voted." Huak said.

ALEXANDER is an institution, not only in Oakland County, where he headed the Public Works Department for 17 years before his retirement in 1975, but in the region.

He chaired the pre-1988 Regional Planning Commission, the Transportation and Land Use Study of the late 1980s and the advisory committee

which set up SEMCOO, He has been a delegate at large to SEMCOG and served on its top planning councils, including the Council on Environmental Strategy and the Solid Waste Study Committee. And he is a trustee of the Metropolitan Affairs Corp., a research agency funded by top industries and labor unions.

Flux3, 40, is a relative unknown outside Troy, where he has been on the council four years. He has been a SEMCOG delegate in that period.

Alexander declined to make even a one-minute speech on his own behalf. Husk eent a mailing to every SEMCOG think eent a mailing to every SEMCOG union.

port, however, didn't attend Thursday's dinner-meeting in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn.

SEMTA, WHICH basically operates auburban buses and a pair of commuter trains, is emerging as a 1983-4 political

tame, as the guig as a secret pointer. Itsue.

It has revised its rapid transit plan to include less subway but extending study corridors along the Woodward corridor to Pontlac and the Silverdome, and the Gratiot corridor to Mt. Clements. The idea of fixed rail transit, however, is unpopular with many suburbanites, including many Husk supporters. Indeed, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners frequently has threatened to pull out of SEMTA unless

more consideration is given to its views.
On top of that, SEMTA is seeking au-thority from the Michigan Legislature to put an operating tax proposal on the ballot — probably calling for raising the sales tax from four cents to five.

BUT SEMTA General Manager Gary Krause cautioned against inter-preting Husk's strong showing as anti-

pretting must be the contract of the contract

SEMTA will bold nine public hearings, including:

• Northern Oakland County — 1
p.m. Monday, July 11, in the board of
commissioners auditorium, 1200 N.
Telegraph, Pontiac.

• Southern Oakland County — 7:30
p.m. Wednesday, July 13, Southfield
Parks and Recreation Building, 28000
Excernen.



Celebrating July...



SEMCOG defends curb on cable

Local governments in southeast Michigan are joining the battle against a congressional bill that will limit state and local regulations of cable televi-

a congressional bill that will limit state and local regulations of cable television systems.

"A wholesale preemption of local regulatory authority over cable . . . Is an unwarranted intrusion on municipal powers," said the Southeast Michigan Council of Government (SENCOG) General Assembly last week.

"This is the most important piece of legislation for the American consumer that I have been associated with for a long time," said Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Artix, whose subcommittee reported it out.

And the Senate Commerce Commits.

It out.

And the Senate Commerce Committee supported the bill because it "believes in free and open competition in the marketplace and in the elimination of . . . artificial barriers to entry."

SENATE BILL 66 passed the Senate on an 87-9 vote last month and is head-ed for the House of Representatives, where local officials from across the nation want to head it off.

Among SB 66's provisions:

• Cable TV systems would be allowed to increase their rates for basic cable service. · Fees charged by local authorities

would be limited.

a No state or local government could prohibit ownership of a cable system by any person because of that person's ownership of another media interest, although the Federal Communications Commission could still bar commercial broadcasters from owning

SEMCOG'S resolution, adopted unanimously by about 80 local representa-tives at last week's annual meeting, was based on resolutions adopted by Detroit and Huntington Woods' coun-

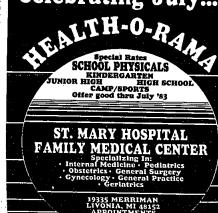
ils. Many southeast Michigan communi i≈ have either adopted, or are in the ues have either adopted, or are in the process of negotiating, cable TV franchises. This has occurred because most cables must be strung from studies to homes along rights of way owned by cities, villages and townships.



Local units see contracts as a reve-nue-maker, a way to get government's point of view directly to viewers, an aid to elementary democracy through "public access" channels and a method of controlling showing of "adult" films. "The bill would nullify many local objectives concerning cable communi-cations and many terms of contracts that were or will be voluntarily negoti-tated by municipalities and cable com-

SEMOOG MADE these arguments against SB 68:
The bill provides that 'if circumstances significantly change,' cable companies can unliaterally drop services and, following negotiation and binding arbitration, drop facilities and companies to the services and contractions. equipment that the companies volun-tarily agreed to provide.





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is not too deep so plenty of sunlight gets in — the feeding is good and the fish are big and healthy. Joe needs his sole to be at least 2' thick, 'cause it's perfect for stuffing. We catch to Joe's specifications because he knows what works for him. His father's recipes have stood the test of time. It gets down to quality, whether it's catching the fish or preparing 'em. The haddock i catch — it's prime, so when it's smoked for Finnan Haddie, it's right for Muers.

Some smoke fish fillets two to three hours and then add color. For Joe Muers, fish is first soaked in brine, hung to dry for twelve hours and then the whol fish, with the bones, is hickory smoked for at least eight, nine or ten hours. No color is added. Muer gets it perfect, then steams it

to perfection.

It's no accident that there's only one restaurant in Detroit known for its sea food for 54 years. It's Joe Muers!





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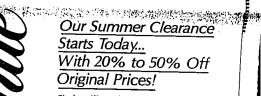
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