

Two Dems file against Patterson

It could be L. Brooks Patterson versus Betty Howe in Oakland County's most widely-watched race. But Democrat Howe must first defeat a challenger for her party's nomination.

To no one's surprise, former prosecutor Patterson and former state Labor Department director Howe filed for county executive, Patterson, a Republican from Clarkston, and Howe, a Democrat from Pleasant Ridge, had both announced in advance of Tuesday's filing deadline.

In a surprise, however, there will be a Democratic primary. Philip Marcuse of Royal Oak is challenging Howe for the nomination.

ELECTION

Longtime incumbent executive Daniel Murphy is retiring.

In other surprises, there will be Republican primaries for sheriff and drain commissioner.

For sheriff, Paul Molin of Beverly Hills filed against incumbent John Nichols of Novi Township. The winner will meet Seymour Handley, Jr., a Troy Democrat, in the fall.

Incumbent drain commissioner George Kuhn of West Bloomfield will face challenger Rick Patterson of Rochester Hills for the right to meet Democrat M. Kay Brady of

Huntington Woods in the fall. Other county races shape up as follows:

• Prosecutor — Incumbent Richard Thompson, R-Clarkston; Steven Kaplan, D-Southfield.

• Clerk/Register of Deeds — Incumbent Lynn Allen, R-Waterford; Martha Blum, D-Orchard Lake Village.

• Treasurer — Incumbent C. Hugh Dobson, R-Nowi Township; Thomas Werth, D-Rochester.

Incumbent judges Eugene Moore and Sandra Silver are running unopposed for the Oakland County Probate Court. Moore is an Oxford resident. Silver lives in Bloomfield Hills.

Incumbent Judges Robert Anderson, Jessica Cooper, Hilda Gage, Richard Kuhn and John N. O'Brien are running unopposed for Sixth Circuit Oakland County Court.

County officers serve four-year terms. Salaries for county officers are: executive, \$106,245; sheriff, \$80,341; drain commissioner, \$80,341; treasurer, \$73,969; clerk, \$71,968.

Probate judges serve six-year terms. Their salary is \$93,817. Circuit judges serve six-year terms. Their salary is \$98,081.

Howe on attack to head county

By WAYNE PEAL
STAFF WRITER

She's been a Birmingham eccentric reporter, county party chairwoman and state Labor Department director.

Now Betty Howe, 55, seeks to be Oakland County's first Democratic executive.

To do so, she must first win

out over fellow Democrat Philip Marcuse of Royal Oak, then beat tough, well-financed L. Brooks Patterson. But Howe isn't awed by her GOP rival.

"I'm absolutely going to be taking the campaign to him," Howe said. "There are clear

See HOWE, 7A

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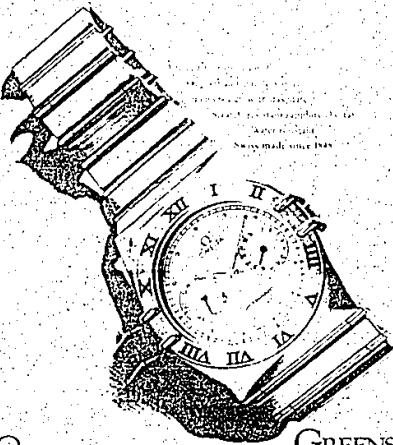


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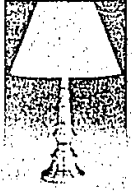
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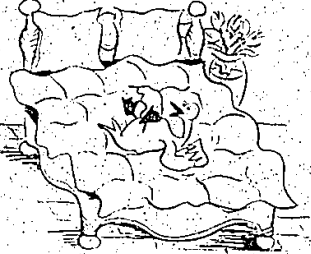
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