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availability, his papers were processed and his slot reserved.

Patterson said that won't happen again, and people who want to rent the Show Mobile for purposes he doesn't like will be refused.

Others question the legality of Patterson's assertion.

Rich Birkett, a member of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws and co-organizer of the controversial event, said "there's no way (Patterson) could not allow us to use (the Show Mobile) if he allows any other private group to use it."

"If he doesn't want our group to use it he can't allow any other private group to use it. We're willing to defend our con-

stitutional rights wherever we see them infringed (Patterson) may see us in court on this issue."

The other co-organizer, University of Michigan student Adam Brook, noted that the Show Mobile was rented fair and square. "Oakland County was paid for the rental of its stage," he said. "They offered it for rent. That's (Patterson's) problem. He certainly hasn't called me, and I challenge him to do so."

As for the other county officials, they're all on Patterson's side.

"It's morally unethical for a public agency to get involved with that kind of operation," said drain commissioner George Kuhn.

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MICHIGAN EYECARE INSTITUTE LEADING EYECARE WITH A VISION

Commission vacancy

Wixom city council mates vie for 'Doc's' seat

By PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

West Bloomfield gave solid support to a favorite son, but it wasn't enough to carry him to victory in the Republican primary in the 11th County Commission District.

James C. Merritt, the only candidate from West Bloomfield, finished third in voting Monday, 119 votes behind the winner, Nancy Dingeldey, and 34 behind the second-place finisher, John Marshall.

Dingeldey, of Wixom, was the top vote-getter with 531, followed by Marshall, of Commerce, with 446 and Merritt with 412, according to figures certified by the Oakland County Election Board Tuesday. Two Commerce residents finished fourth and fifth. Kenneth P. Ralsanen pulled 82

votes and Michael Casey received 46.

Dingeldey will face Democrat Mark Clancey in a general election May 3. Clancey, of Wixom, was unopposed Monday and pulled 292 votes.

Dingeldey and Clancey are both members of the Wixom City Council . . . and friends.

"I was at her house (Monday night) when the election results came in," said Clancey, who owns the Precision Tune Auto Shop in Southfield. "I was among the first to congratulate her. Regardless of how things come out (May 3), the 11th District will get a good commissioner."

Dingeldey said she expects a clean, upbeat campaign focusing on issues.

The winner will replace G. William Caddell, who was elected to

his eighth term in November, but resigned in January to become a deputy county clerk.

The 11th District includes all of Commerce and Wixom and three precincts (the second, fourth and eighth) in West Bloomfield.

Dingeldey pulled only 54 votes in West Bloomfield. While that was less than half the amount Merritt garnered, it was four more than Marshall, her nearest competitor.

She virtually won the election

with a strong showing in Wixom, where she pulled 249 votes compared to 56 for Marshall and 35 for Merritt.

"I worked very hard in West Bloomfield," Dingeldey said. "But I worked very hard throughout the district."

Merritt was upbeat Tuesday morning, despite the loss. "John (Marshall) and I split the vote in Commerce Township," he said. "We shot each other in the foot. But it's a new day."

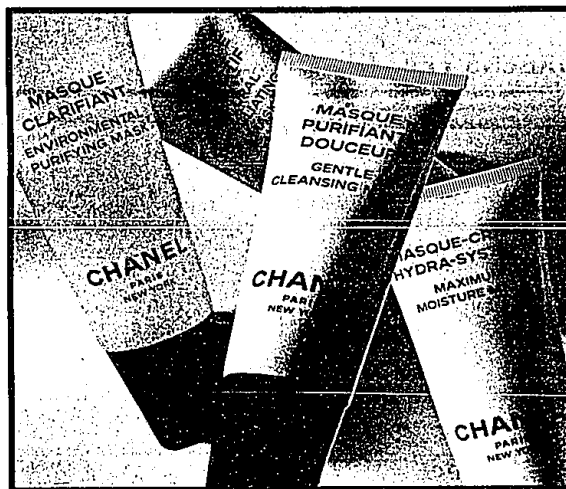
Come, help spiff up Belle Isle

The Friends of Belle Isle are having their annual spring cleaning on Belle Isle from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 1, or May 8 if it's raining May 1.

Anyone who wants to help should bring boots, gloves and rakes. Everyone is meeting at the casino. For more information, call 331-7760.

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