

The St. Ignace News

and Les Cheneaux Islands Weekly Wave

Section Two

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Page 15

Local Candidates File Petitions, Launch Campaigns for August 5 Primary

By Karen Gould

Local candidates have filed petitions and are launching their campaigns for county positions that will be on the August 5 primary ballot, just 10 weeks away.

By state law, voting in the primary requires voters to cast their ballot for only one political party. At the polls, voters must specify which party's ballot they wish to vote, either Republican or Democrat. By selecting a party ballot, a registered voter does not have to be a member of the party, nor does choosing a party ballot make the voter a registered member of that party.

The last day to register to vote in the primary is July 7.

Candidates without political party affiliation have until 4 p.m. July 17 to file a petition to be on the November 4 general election ballot. The following partisan candidates have met the filing deadline of May 13 and will be on the August 5 primary ballot.

County-wide

Three Democratic incumbents on the county commission are running unopposed, including Carl Frazier in District 1, Larry Leveille in District 2, and Calvin McPhee in District 5. In District 3, Democrat incumbent Dawn Nelson will face off against Democrat Fred Paquin. In District 4, Republican incumbent Mike Patrick is challenged by Democrat James Farero.

County Prosecutor Fred Felepa, a Republican, is running unopposed for a four-year term. Also unopposed on the August ballot are Republican candidates Clerk Mary Kay Tamlyn and Democrat Sheriff Scott Strait. In the Register of Deeds office, Republican incumbent Diane Frankovich is challenged by Democrat Bambi Robinson. The seats are four-year terms.

In the treasurer's office, five candidates are seeking the four-year position. Democratic candidates include incumbent Nora Massey, Jerry Murray, and Patrick Fenlon. Republican candidates are Robert Winkelman and Leroy Pieri.

With one opening, five candidates will vie for a six-year seat on the road commission. Candidates include Republicans Richard Oli-

ver, Frank Harness, Tom Doty, and Robert Smith, and Democrat Joseph Durm.

Incumbent Beth Ann Gibson will face Thomas North for the post of 92nd District Court judge, serving Mackinac and Luce counties. The nonpartisan position is for a six-year term.

Republican incumbent Jeffrey Davis and Democrat Neil Hill Sr. will run for the position of county surveyor.

Blanc Township

Incumbent treasurer Cheryl Gahn, a Democrat, is running unopposed, as is trustee Democrat Shelby Newhouse. The positions of supervisor, clerk, and a second trustee remain open, and Clerk Joan Schroka said she expects independent or write-in candidates to file for the posts. Those candidates have a later filing deadline.

Brevort

Incumbent Supervisor Edward Serwach, a Republican, is being challenged by Republican Darren Spring. Republican clerk Susan Stelzer is running unopposed, as is Republican treasurer Dan Litzner.

Three Republicans are vying for two trustee seats, including incumbent Burt Rutledge, Vern Erskine, and David Craig.

Clark Township

Incumbent Republican Linda Hudson is being challenged by Republican Gerald Hill for the supervisor seat. Republican Mike Miller is running unopposed for the clerk seat. Also, Republican Katie Carpenter is running unopposed as treasurer. Running for two trustee seats are incumbent Republican Mike Lofdahl and Democrat Gary Wellnitz.

Garfield Township

All incumbents are running unopposed, and include Republican Supervisor Cleo Smith, Republican clerk Linda Bennett, Republican treasurer Debra Bennett, Republican trustee Duncan MacArthur, and Democrat trustee Donald Butkovich.

Hendricks Township

Seeking the supervisor seat is newcomer Republican Russell Nelson. Incumbent Bernice Hood, a Democrat, is running unopposed as treasurer. Newcomer Barbara Price, a Republican, is running for clerk.

Four candidates are vying for two trustee seats, including incumbent Republican Jack Rutledge III, Republican Pearl Caswell, Democrat Howard Hood, and Independent Ron Frazier.

Incumbent Republican Jerry Eifler is running unopposed as constable.

Hudson Township

Running unopposed are incumbent Democrat Supervisor Al Garavaglia and Democratic Clerk Barbara Kerridge. Jacqueline Prout, a Democrat, is running for treasurer. Seeking two trustee seats are Democrats incumbent David Livermore, Jeanne Donovan-Paquin, and Gary Derusha.

Marquette Township

All incumbents are running unopposed and include Republican supervisor John Kronmeyer, Republican clerk Lori Reich, Democrat treasurer Jan Huyck Fehner, and Republican trustees William Beacom and David Lamb.

Moran Township

Incumbents running unopposed are all Democrats, and include supervisor Patrick Durm, clerk Kristine Vallier, and treasurer Susan Dionne.

Running for two trustee seats are incumbent Republican Mark Spencer and incumbent Democrat Lonnie Heuer.

Newton Township

A full slate of candidates is seeking seats in the township, including four hopefuls running for supervisor. Three residents are challenging incumbent supervisor Democrat Bob Brotherton. They include Democrat John McNeil, and Republicans Jim France and Rick Frisch.

Township clerk Democrat Alice Zdebski will face Republican Jolynn Brawley. Republican treasurer Marilyn Strickland is running unopposed.

Running for two trustee seats are Republicans George Tremblay, Rachel McNeil, Marilyn McArthur, and Kurt Doepke, and Democrats Kirk Grinnell, Nikki Tremblay, and Donald McNeil.

Portage Township

Supervisor incumbent Don Ferris, a Republican, is challenged by Republican Harold Reeves and Democrat Donna O'Grady. Incumbent clerk Marcia McDon-

ald, a Republican, is running unopposed. Democrat incumbent Nancy Kister is being challenged for the treasurer position by Democrat Brad Kohvakka and Republican Nancy Seegert.

Five hopefuls are seeking two trustee seats, including Republican incumbents Pat Abram and Mark Devereaux. Challengers include Republican Shirley Gehrett and Jeff Burton, and Democrat Mike Soder.

St. Ignace Township

All incumbents are running unopposed, and include Republican Supervisor Dale Nelson, Re-

publican Clerk Donna Harju, Republican Treasurer Sheryl Schairer, and trustees Democrat Steven Campbell and Republican Donald Schairer. Incumbent constable Ronald Wartella is running as a Democrat.

City of St. Ignace

No terms expire this year.

City of Mackinac Island

The election for city officials was held May 6, with all incumbents re-elected. A recount for one alderman seat is scheduled for May 22. Incumbent Jason St. Onge received two more votes than challenger Anneke Meyers.

Voting requirements

Voters also need to meet Michigan's voter identification requirement. Presenting photo identification is required in order to vote. If a voter does not bring a Michigan driver's license or personal identification card, then to obtain a ballot, the voter is required to sign an affidavit stating they do not have identification.

Those voters using an absentee ballot must submit it by August 2 at 2 p.m. The ballot needs to be submitted to the clerk of the township or city where the voter is registered.

Area Track Teams Capture Division Titles



The Brimley Bays girls track team won its first Division 3 regional track championship in school history at Pickford Friday, May 16. Team members include (front, from left) Lynette Carrick, Becca Carruthers, Kelly Graham, Amanda Starr; (back) Amber Aikens, Jessica Graham, Miranda Reattoir, Rachel Carruthers, Courtney Amble, Amy Bertram, Kaitlyn Hope, Sammi McLeod, and Coach Joyel Hyvarinen.



The St. Ignace Saints girls won the Division 2 regional track finals at Manistique. Team members include (front, from left) Chelsea Bosley, Caysey Brown, (middle, from left) Kayla Gustin, Amanda Coveyou, Jaimee Bloxson, Christi Therrian, Dani Ford, Kara Fitzpatrick, (back, from left) Jodie Langstaff, Grace Wheeler, Heather Beaudoin, Samantha Radecki, Chelsea Swope, Mikaela Kelly, Kristen Olsen, Kali Jo Marshall, and Nicole Elmlblad. Missing from photograph is Coach Diane Huskey. (Photograph by Betsy Wheeler, LaSalle High School Yearbook)



The Cedarville Trojans boys defended their Division 3 track championship with a win at Pickford Friday, May 16. Team members (not in order) include Coach Ryan Wilson, seniors Jake Wellnitz, Jason Duncan, Sheldon Tassier, Cody Thompson, Kevin Thompson; juniors C.J. Paquin, Clayton Meyers, Luke Murray, James Mitchell, Jordan Huff, Andrew Figures, Paul Eberts, Adam Dingman, Austin Bright, Alex McMaken; sophomores Zach McFarlane, Rex Rohrer, Jason Nam; freshmen Jordan Baker, Michael Kenny, Jeremy Sherlund, Tyler Kanitz, Brent Heerspink, Jacob Strait, Nathan Landreville, Matthew Schlosser, and Patrick Duman.

Mackinac County

Treasurer's Office To Hire Temporary Employee

By Karen Gould

The county now will hire a temporary tax clerk for the treasurer's office, to be employed until the end of the year. Commissioners thought staffing issues in the department were settled in April, until two department heads discussed the matter with the board at its meeting Thursday, May 8.

In April, commissioners were under the impression that county employee Joan Therrian held a floating union position, and agreed to move her into the treasurer's office temporarily.

Mrs. Therrian, however, does not hold a floating position, but works in the department of Register of Deeds Diane Frankovich, Mrs. Frankovich told commissioners May 8.

When work slows, Mrs. Frankovich said, she makes Mrs. Therrian available to other county offices.

"I believe in helping out other offices when possible," said Mrs. Frankovich, although it is not in Mrs. Therrian's job description to assist other departments.

Treasurer Nora Massey, who also attended the meeting, said Mrs. Therrian is not available for the number of hours she needs.

Commissioners agreed to hire a new temporary employee and approved Ms. Massey to advertise

for the position. With \$23,000 remaining in the deputy treasurer's salary, the position vacated by Ms. Massey when she became treasurer, that will be used to cover wages of the new employee. Wages, estimates Ms. Massey, would total between \$7,000 and \$10,500 and she would offer from \$10 to \$12 per hour for a wage, depending on qualifications. Hours needed for the new employee would vary between 17 hours and 35 hours a week.

Commissioners again questioned, as they had in April, the need for the new hire when they reasoned the department has operated short staffed for a number of years when then-treasurer Jane Hampton was not in the office daily.

"It's already been a problem for me when I don't have the help I need," said Ms. Massey, who has held the office since May 1. "I have to have somebody in order to do the minimal amount of service to the public and to complete the tasks that need to be done."

As treasurer, Ms. Massey said, she could use money from the delinquent tax account to hire someone without the board's approval, although it was not her preference.

Ms. Massey also took the opportunity to explain to commissioners the circumstances of a voucher signed by Sue Dionne, who works in the office. Commissioners had

questioned it earlier.

In April, commissioners sought the help of the county prosecutor when Ms. Dionne signed a voucher for \$185,855.58 in payment to Enbridge Energy, without seeking board approval.

Part of the payment was to cover funds owed by Moran Township, where Ms. Dionne serves as treasurer. The procedure was put in place earlier by Mrs. Hampton, not by Ms. Dionne, Ms. Massey pointed out.

The payment was required by the Michigan Tax Tribunal when the company was charged too much for personal property taxes. Several townships within the county had used the state's formula for assessing pipelines, which was deemed too high by the tribunal.

To pay the amount, said Ms. Massey, would cripple some of the townships.

"Jane [Hampton] made the decision that upon written request from their board to us, we would pay their refund for them out of the delinquent tax revolving fund, which the county treasurer has sole discretion over," said Ms. Massey.

When the payment was made to Enbridge Energy, said Ms. Massey, her office billed the county entities, which already have paid back to the county about half of the more than \$185,000.