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Wednesday, Nov. 1, 1995

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Susan Comstock  
ad manager

## Newcomers hope to land seats on Hoopeston Area school board

*Editor's note: This is the first in a series on the eight candidates running in the Nov. 7 election for Hoopeston Area school board seats.*

Contessa "Connie" Wilson has two reasons to run for the Hoopeston Area school board: her children.

Wilson, 31, has two daughters, ages 10 and 5, in Hoopeston schools. While her job as pharmacy manager at Walgreen's in Danville prohibits her from getting involved in her children's school life through being a room mother, Wilson said a seat on the board would not only fit her schedule, but allow her to have input to her children's education. "I'm trying to stay in touch with my children and the decisions that will be affecting their lives," she said.

Another incentive to run is experience she got on at Purdue University, serving on the curriculum committee. "That's where I got my first interest," she said. The interest was furthered in New York, participating in a joint decision-making committee, which worked on everything from changing the school's grading system to "deciding which weeds needed to be whacked."

Wilson sees many strengths in the district and few weaknesses.

Among the strengths are the availability of computers to students throughout their education. "they have done very well in keeping the children up in those kinds of things," Wilson said.

Another strength is "consolidation efforts" with other schools.

Wilson said she is unaware of any problems "that have been a faltering concern."

Describing herself as "pretty conservative," Wilson said she will speak her mind if elected. "I will not hide how I feel about something," she said.

Wilson is a member of the Illinois Pharmacists Association and helps at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. She and her family attend Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Wilson has lived in Hoopeston for approximately 10 years.

A second candidate also cites his children as reasons for seeking a board seat.

See SEATS on other side

## Winners listed from Pumpkin Family Reunion contests

Wet weather did not dampen the spirits of participants in this year's Pumpkin Family Reunion.

Contests during the reunion, including costume, cooking and pumpkin decorating, drew sizeable crowds from Hoopeston and the surrounding area.

Contest winners were:

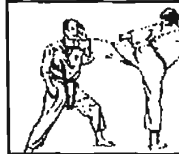
**Cooking** - pies: Marcia Miller, Hoopeston, first; Bernita Hannie, Hoopeston, second; cakes: Marcia Miller, first, Beverly Wallace, Hoopeston, second; cookies: Marcia Miller, first, Beverly Wallace, sec-

ond; breads: Maxine Mills, Rossville, first, no second; and open category: Marcia Miller, first, Darlene Rigsby, Hoopeston, second.

**Costume** - movie character: Katie Collins, first, Carolyn Asselin, second, Kasey Carl, third; most beautiful: Kayla Stipp, first, Jessica Armes, second; cartoon character: Erika Ramos, first, Dakota Patton, second, Bralley Lawson and Logan Patton, third; animals: Brant Ramos, first, Abigail Wagoner, sec-

See WINNERS on other side

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### Seats continued from other side

James Klaber, 49, has two children, ages 14 and 9, in the system. "If I didn't have kids, I probably wouldn't be running," he said.

Klaber, a substitute teacher, believes that gives him insight other board members may not have. "Most of them haven't seen what's going on (in the schools)," he said.

Curriculum and dedicated staff who live in the community are two strong points about the district, Klaber said. "I see people migrate to Hoopeston for the schools," he said. "We offer as many classes as bigger schools."

### Winners continued from other side

ond, Dean Shore, third; most unusual: Kelsey Denham, first, Kodey Denham, second, Whitney Garri-son, third.; storybook: Brandy Patterson, first; scari-est: William Orcutt, first, Alex Hasbargen, second, Chris Coons, third; miscellaneous: Jordan Stipp, first, Evan Pierce, second, Ethian Pierce, third; clowns: Ashley Armes, first, Zach Sage, second; small groups: Keri and Beth Nunn, first; scarecrows, witches, ghosts, goblins, etc.: Zack Garmon, first, Samantha Sanford, second, Ross Rule, third.

**Pumpkins** - "Best of Show," Cathy Moore; grades K-2, carved: Michael and Daniel Ferrell, first; Daniel Ferrell, second; painted and/or decorated: Jonathon Fouse, first; Laura Stumph, second; carved/painted: Kasey Carl, first; Jimmy Hannie, second.

Grades 3-5: carved, Mithcell Hibbs, first; Rheanna Wardall, second; painted and/or decorated: Kayla Carl, first; Ashley Fouse, second; carved/painted, Jessica Burton, first; William Orcutt, second.

Grades 6-8: carved, J.T. Underwood, first; Robert Morgan, second; painted and/or decorated, Adam Wood, first; Charles Johns' grandchildren; carved/painted, Michelle Baker, first.

Grades 9-12: painted and/or decorated, Carrie Custer, first; Tara Tyler, second; carved/painted, Carrie Custer, first.

Adults: carved, Joyce Ervin, first; Robin Coons, second; painted and/or decorated, Marilyn Smith,

Klaber sees no major problems in the district. "I really don't see any issues," he said. "We've got the same problems as other schools, but to a smaller degree."

Klaber, a political conservative "unless you get my goat up," is the owner of Klaber Auction Services and is a member of the national, Illinois and Indiana Auctioneers Associations. He is also involved in the local soccer program. He and his family attend the Church of God.

A former Wellington resident, Klaber has lived in Hoopeston for approximately 10 years.

first; Richard Ingram, second; carved/painted, Peggy Houmes, first.

Terminex was the business category winner.

**Baby contest** - birth-6 mos.: cutest smile, Mackenzie Folzey; most hair, Sabrina Colunga; chubbiest cheeks, Sabrina Colunga; grouchiest, Mackenzie Foley; 6-18 mos.: cutest smile, Danielle Colunga; most hair, Cassidy Hurt; chubbiest cheeks, Jessica Seggebruch; grouchiest, Caleb Mann.

Bed races - King Motors' three-wheeled bed took first, followed by Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital in second and the Hoopeston EMTs in third.

**Ghost rally** - Buddy and Joan Hensley of Chicago won, travelling 125 miles to find eight of 13 clues.

### In the Hospital

**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**  
**Oct. 30, 1995**

**Admitted:** none.

**Discharged:** Robert Llanos, Hoopeston; Elsie Mil-  
 ton, Rankin.

### Weather

Mostly cloudy today with a chance of rain. High in the low 50s. Tonight, cloudy. Low in the low 40s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 48, low near 42.



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