

SUSIE SHEPPARD

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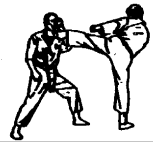
Grant Township Deputy Assessor since March 1996

Vote at the Republican Caucus

Tuesday, Jan. 14 6-7:30 p.m.

St. Anthony's Parish Hall

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Assessor's race features incumbent deputy, businessman

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles on candidates running in Tuesday's Republican caucus. Assessor candidates are featured today.

Grant Township will have a new assessor next year, following incumbent assessor Teresa Sollars' decision not to seek re-election.

Two people, deputy assessor Susie Sheppard and long-time Hoopeston businessman Bruce Burton, are vying for the seat.

Sheppard, 31, has been deputy assessor since March 1996. "I'm the best candidate for the job," she said, citing her hands-on experience in the office and her people skills as two reasons. "I'm a happy-go-lucky person. I get along with everybody."

Sheppard believes classes and job experience give her an advantage. "It's a complicated process," she said. "You don't just go out and pick a number out of the air and slap it on a house."

That she trained under Sollars is an added plus, Sheppard said. Sollars has, for the last two years, had the lowest township multiplier in Vermilion County, including a zero multiplier two years ago.

If elected, Sheppard said she will have an open door policy. "I want to keep the door open, let people feel like they can come in and ask questions," she said.

While the job is political in that it is an elected position, Sheppard said she does not see it as a political job. "You go in and do it," she said. "I won't play politics. I'll be fair."

Burton wants the office for "personal reasons and a little idealism."

First, he wants a job close to home. The long-time car dealer, former owner of Burton Motors, had worked at a Watseka dealership until Tuesday, when

he left his position to work on his campaign.

Also, Burton believes the job is similar to his life-long career. "I've appraised a lot of big ticket things," he said. "I'm real used to working with figures and I enjoy it. This all boils down to economics and I understand that pretty well."

Another enjoyable part of the job will be working with the public, he said. "I'm not someone you can stick in a back room," he said. "I'd probably not like a job where I couldn't schmooz."

The third factor in Burton's interest is his interest in politics. He has been an active member of the Republican party for 15 years and is currently chairman of the local Republican central committee.

The 49-year-old Burton said if he is elected, he will "plan on doing things by the state requirements," which mandate commercial and residential property be assessed every four years.

Like his opponent, Burton believes politics is not a major component of the job. "The politicking, I don't think that would be a real big asset in that job."

Change in law means assessor now qualified before elected

A change in Illinois law means candidates for assessor must be qualified before they seek office.

This is the first year that assessor candidates had to pass classes prior to seeking office.

Both Grant Township candidates, Bruce Burton and Susie Sheppard, have completed the required training.

Burton averaged 97 on his tests, with individual scores of 92, 96, 100 and 100.

Sheppard's scores were not available at press

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candidate for

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Candidate for

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Police News



Jodi G. Wells, 19, of 813 E. Seminary, was arrested at 11:09 p.m. Wednesday on two county traffic warrants.

She was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of bond.

A **key ring** with numerous keys was found Thursday morning at Fortees Apartment Complex. The owner may identify and claim it at the police

station.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 7:46 a.m. Thursday at Route 9 and Euclid.

James E. Brown, 306 Clinton, Boswell, Ind., in a 1988 Chevrolet S-10, and Erin D. Hollen, 42498 N 1950 East Road, in a 1989 Chevrolet Cavalier, were both westbound on Route 9.

Police said Hollen lost control of her car and Brown,



Court dispositions



Jan. 2: Alvin Lovell, Hoopeston, paid \$100 in full.

Brenda Mann, Oakwood, one count deceptive practice, paid \$221.02 in full.

Daniel Miller, Hoopeston, one count deceptive practice, \$45 and restitution to be made.

Pamela Nixon, Potomac, to pay \$45 fine, \$138.05 restitution; failed to appear, rule to show cause issued.

Tani O'Neal, Hoopeston, four counts deceptive practice, to pay \$180 for all and \$334.11 restitution; continued to Feb. 6 for payment.

DonnaMarie Powers, Hoopeston, three counts deceptive practice, two counts total fine \$150 and restitution; one count, costs only, six months court supervision, restitution and service fee to be paid.

Shane Schultz, Ambia, Ind., rule to show cause hearing, restitution paid in full.

Victor Salinas Jr., Hoopeston, disturbing the peace, pleaded not guilty; continued to Feb. 20.

Trent Savage, Hoopeston, to pay \$75, rule to show cause issued.



Lunch menus



Hoopeston Area Grade Schools

MONDAY: Chicken steak, whipped potatoes, green beans, bread, margarine, pineapple.

TUESDAY: Pancakes, sausage, carrot/celery sticks, orange, graham cracker.

WEDNESDAY: Corn dog, tri tator, slaw, fruit cocktail.

THURSDAY: Spaghetti/meat sauce, salad, pears, bread, margarine.

FRIDAY: Chicken nuggets, carrots, bread, margarine, peaches, cookie.

Hoopeston Area High/Middle Schools

MONDAY: Chicken steak or tuna salad/bun, whipped potatoes, green beans, roll, margarine, pineapple.

TUESDAY: Chicken noodles or ham & bean soup, crackers, toasted cheese, carrot/celery sticks, orange, cookie.

WEDNESDAY: Corn dog or BBQ/bun, baked beans, tri tator, slaw, fruit cocktail.

THURSDAY: Spaghetti/meat sauce or sub/bun, salad,

pears, roll, margarine.

FRIDAY: Chicken nuggets or hot dog/bun, carrots, bread, margarine, peaches, cookie.

All menus include milk.

Rossville-Alvin menus were not available at press time.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Jan. 8, 1997

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Snow showers likely today. High in the mid 20s. Tonight, cloudy. Low in the mid teens. Tomorrow, windy. High near 13, low near 5. Sunday, partly cloudy. High near 6, low near 4.

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HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

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Tuesday, Jan. 14 6-7:30 p.m. St. Anthony's Parish Hall

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