

# Four-term clerk has opponent in Town of Eagle

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## Darlene Burton vs. Sally McMillan

By Wayne Tryhuk~Assistant Editor

**Town of Eagle** - Since they're both running for town clerk, it's not surprising that each would want the record - in this case of her candidacy - to be clear.

Incumbent Darlene Burton and challenger Sally McMillan took advantage of the *Chief's* invitation to announce their reasons for seeking the clerk's office, as well as their qualifications and objectives for it.

### Darlene Burton

Burton, who said she has "over 30 years worth of clerical and secretarial experience" and is seeking her fifth consecutive election as town clerk, stressed her background. "When I began" in the clerkship, "Eagle was just starting to grow," she recalled. "My office was my kitchen table. My (home) phone was the town clerk's phone."

Also the current secretary of the town's Board of Zoning Adjustment, and its Planning and Zoning Commission (since about 1992 and 1989 respectively), and having served as deputy clerk, "I've been involved in all aspects of the town's development," Burton emphasized.

That process, she said, has included creation of a library/municipal building, shared with the Village of Eagle, the



Darlene Burton

starting of industrial and town park construction, and "most of all, having subdivisions and planned unit developments built with a rural atmosphere.

"I've been there," she emphasized.

She particularly likes being in town service because it allows her to deal with the public in "a great variety of day-to-day business," Burton said. "There are public hearings and meetings, and people coming in" to the clerk's office. "There's something going on all the time, and there's always something around the corner."

She also noted that she has "a very good rapport with board members," one of whom, Supervisor Thomas Burton, is her husband.

In addition, Darlene Burton said she was pleased that the town and Village of Eagle, which cooperatively run a fire department and share a municipal hall, "get along for the betterment of both communities," as is not always the case with townships and their smaller municipal neighbors.

Asked what her goals would be if reelected, Darlene Burton replied, "To have the town run as smoothly as it has been...and make sure the needs of the town's constituents are met."

### Sally McMillan

McMillan told the *Chief* she would "add more detail to the minutes of the Town Board meetings, and improve the record keeping system overall" if elected.



Sally McMillan

Responding to a question, McMillan, whose resume cites her "preparation of meeting minutes," said she was not faulting Darlene Burton's performance, and added, "my nature is to be detailed."

McMillan's resume lists "filing, reception, typing, word processing, data entry, calculator, collections," and "cash handling" among her areas of experience.

Also referred to on the resume is McMillan's familiarity with "Rules of Order" which generally govern municipal meetings.

Another possible pursuit of McMillan's, should she win election, is promoting change in, or extension of, hours at the town's section of the municipal hall, "so people have greater access" to it.

The "main reason" she is seeking the town clerk post is "to serve the community," McMillan said.

Expressing concern that such motivation may seem "trite," she added, "I've always been very active, in school, mainly, and I wanted to expand that to involvement with the town."

McMillan, serving as a volunteer, is secretary of the Palmyra-Eagle Middle School Parent-Teacher Organization, and was treasurer of the equivalent group at Eagle Elementary School, and a member of school By-Law/Amendments, Scholarship, Fundraiser, Futures and Principal Selection Committees.

Her resume says she would perform town clerk duties "earnestly, accurately and promptly."

Operator of a home-based business distributing health and environmental products, McMillan has worked for an accounting service and other private employers