

Candidates answer questions

Berry vs. Clancy for Tuscola sheriff

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from the Army and Macomb County Community College. He and his wife, Grace, have three children and one grandchild.

THE QUESTIONS

Q: Are you satisfied with the operation of the sheriff's department at present? If not, what changes would you make? If those changes involve additional expense, for instance, hiring more deputies, how would you fund them?

Clancy: No. I believe the overall efficiency may be at an all time low. It reflects upon the way many of the deputies must be doing their jobs. For example, after nine months of operation in 1979, the total number for appearance tickets and citations stood at 2,843. Now, after nine months of operation in 1980, the total number is 2,714. That is a drop of 129, which means that the tax-

payers of this county are getting the short end of the stick. If elected, I intend to improve efficiency. I will insist upon an honest day's work for an honest dollar from all employees. And, I will be in the field setting an example for the men to follow.

Berry: I am not satisfied with the operation of the sheriff's department at the present time.

Changes I propose to make if elected will hinge quite heavily on the tax proposal issues before the voters and the resulting outcome as it affects the county budget.

Several changes within the department can be effected by moving some personnel to areas to better utilize their capabilities and experience.

It would be ideal if more help could be hired as it is sorely needed. However, I do not see this happening right away.

Q: This is a period when governments are having to



Paul Berry

tighten their belts. What potential do you see within the sheriff's department for economizing? If it becomes mandatory that you had to make some budget cuts, what cuts would you make?

Clancy: I would recommend immediately the introduction of a few compact cars into the sheriff's motor pool. These cars could be used for many routine mat-

ters like serving papers, etc. Also, I am convinced that some of these high speed chases are unnecessary when we have a modern communications system at our disposal. In 1979, 437,000 miles were logged by the sheriff's vehicles. Over 42,000 gallons of gasoline was used. This amounts to only 10 miles per gallon, at a time when we are talking about energy conservation.

I have recommended the introduction of an inmate work program on a selected basis. This would involve the cooperation of an agency like the Road Commission. They could put inmates, under deputy supervision, to work on secondary road projects. Under such a program, I believe the judges might consider cutting sentence time for many inmates who volunteer to work for the public benefit. It would cut the soaring costs for board and room, now being absorbed by the sheriff's department.

If after every cost saving measure was taken and the



Herbert Clancy

budget still had to be cut, it would have to come from a layoff of personnel. This would be my last resort. I would do everything in my power first to convince the county commissioners that law enforcement should have top priority.

Berry: It has become necessary to reduce the department by one position already this month and it is quite likely that several more positions could be in jeopardy if the secondary road patrol funds and the federal revenue sharing money is reduced by the state and federal governments respectively.

If these cuts in funds come about, the only alternative is for the board of commissioners to come up with local funding or lay people off. If layoffs occur, this will result in reduced services provided by the department. This will mean that services provided by the road patrols will have to be cut back as the state constitution mandates that the sheriff maintain the county jail. In maintaining a fully populated or overcrowded jail, it takes more manpower to handle these jobs and when this occurs, the road patrol and other areas of the department have to suffer.

Q (for Clancy only): Other than about a year spent with the sheriff's department in

1972-73, your entire civilian police experience has been in running a small town police department. The sheriff's department is considerably larger and its functions are more extensive. Why should persons vote for you for sheriff?

Clancy: As I have already indicated, Undersheriff Bruce Tait will remain on the job, if I am elected. Together, we represent almost 60 years of law enforcement experience. I have worked as a county deputy, previous to accepting the chief of police position at Millington. I am very familiar with the operation of the sheriff's department, having assisted it on a myriad of occasions in my capacity as chief of police.

The Army Commendation Medal I received in 1965 while serving with the Military Police, I believe, speaks to my leadership ability. And, leadership is what this sheriff's race should be all about. In conclusion, I believe that I am offering the people of this county a law enforcement team... a team that can deliver top notch law enforcement services. People don't have to vote for me and then wonder about who the undersheriff will be.

Q (for Berry only): Except for three years as undersheriff, from 1969-72, the rest of your 25 years with the sheriff's department has been as a deputy. Being sheriff is primarily an administrative job. Because of your minimal administrative experience, why should persons vote for you for sheriff?

Berry: My 25 years' experience has been in all phases of the department. I am totally familiar with the complete operation as it has grown in that time. My working in the complete operation can only be to my advantage.

Also, I have completed administrative and supervisory courses from the Michigan Law Enforcement Training Council in police administration and supervision. This education and

the job experience along with my ability to work with all the police chiefs and the departments throughout the county will give me the ability to handle the job of being sheriff.

Items stolen

Items worth more than \$300 were reported stolen from a car last Wednesday parked in the rear lot at Cass City High School.

Taken from his car, James T. Crickon of 3918 N. Cemetery Road told village police, were an AM-FM radio with eight-track tape player, worth \$70; "several" cassette tapes and case, \$200; two stereo speakers, \$50; one hub cap, \$25, and one eight-track tape, \$3. The vehicle had been locked. The incident was reported at 6:30 p.m.

Village police took Jerry D. Worley, 23, of Detroit, to the county jail after they stopped his car at 10:20 p.m. last Thursday. His vehicle was stopped after he failed to stop on Woodland Avenue before turning onto Main Street.

A check was made and it was discovered Worley was wanted on warrants from Romeo state police for contempt of court and the Warren Police Department for engaging in business as an alteration contractor without a license.

Village police cited Worley on a charge of driving

with a revoked license. Monday before District Judge Richard F. Kern, he pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to three days in the county jail, fined \$33 and assessed \$22 court costs.

He was to have been released from jail if he posted \$200 bond for the contempt of court warrant and \$100 for the business without a license charge.

Charles O'Dell of 432 Krapf Road, Cass City, reported to Bad Axe state police Saturday morning that tools and a battery were taken and trucks damaged at the gravel pit he owns in Greenleaf township.

The excavation tools and truck battery were valued at \$125. Damage to three trucks, apparently done with a hammer, was estimated at \$175.

Richard Colling of Ashmore Road, Unionville, told sheriff's deputies Monday afternoon that 50 gallons of fuel were drained from his combine over the week end while it was parked in a field off Seelye Road, north of Cass City Road in Elmwood township.

A YES VOTE FOR TUSCOLA COUNTY PROPOSITION I will assure continuation of county operations. Paid for by Tuscola County Proposition I Committee.

Footo vs. Riess for Sanilac commission seat

Countywide races in Sanilac county were supposedly settled in the Aug. 5 primary, but they weren't. Only Republicans filed, so supposedly whomever won the primaries would take office Jan. 1.

However, County Clerk Lawrence R. Smith, loser to Deputy Clerk Delene Schultheiss by 197 votes, is running as a write-in or sticker candidate in a last-ditch effort to hold onto his job.

Smith was Sandusky city clerk for 13 years before being elected county clerk four years ago.

In his write-in campaign, he is crying foul-play, arguing that Mrs. Schultheiss misled voters in the primary by advertising she has 10 years' experience as a deputy clerk when in fact she has never worked in his office.

Mrs. Schultheiss has been the secretary for the county Board of Commissioners for 10 years, with one of her jobs being taking minutes at board meetings. State law requires that the county clerk or his deputy -- hence her title -- take the minutes.

She has been endorsed for election as county clerk by four of the eight county commissioners, including Lloyd Severance of Decker.

In addition to taking minutes and performing other tasks for the board, she said she helps township officials with filing of tax statements and warrants, a task normally performed by the clerk's office.

The other candidates, running without opposition, are: Prosecutor, Robert Barnes, who narrowly defeated incumbent J. Anthony Sykora in the primary; Sheriff, Ross E. Dundas, who has held the position since 1965; treasurer, Ken Rhead, in office four years; drain commissioner, Stuart Armstead, 25 years, and register of deeds, Maurice Turnbull, 19 years.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Republican Eugene Footo, 52, of 5285 Freiburg Road, Argyle, is running against Democrat Eileen K. Riess, 64, of 3820 W. Downington Road, Snover, for District 1 county commissioner.

The district consists of Argyle, Evergreen, Greenleaf, Lamotte and Moore townships. It is presently represented by Lloyd Severance, who isn't seeking re-election.

Footo, winner of the Republican primary over two other candidates, was Ar-



Eugene A. Footo



Eileen K. Riess

gyle township supervisor for six years in the 1960s and has been its certified assessor the past 10 years.

His wife, Hazel, is the present township supervisor, but isn't seeking re-election.

Footo served on the Sanilac County Social Services Board for 12 years. He resigned in June in order to run for county commissioner.

He and sons Dennis and Dave farm 700 acres and feed about 300 cattle. He has been an Argyle township resident since he was a small child.

Mrs. Riess, chairman of the Sanilac County Democratic Party since 1974, unsuccessfully ran for county commissioner two years ago.

She is a member of the Democratic State Central Steering Committee and the Democratic 8th Congress-

sional District Steering Committee.

She has been vice-president of the Sanilac County Extension Homemakers since 1978 and will automatically become president in June of next year. She is vice-president of the Area 14 Homemakers Council since 1979 and will automatically become its president in January, 1982.

Earlier this year, Mrs. Riess received the extension homemakers Silver Salute Award.

For 14 years, she was an office manager and salesperson for a real estate and investment company.

In District 2, which consists of Austin, Minden, Marion, Wheatland and Delaware townships, Republican Donald Decker of Deckerville is unopposed for re-election.

No one knows the impact of proposals

What impact will passage of the Tisch Amendment (Proposal D) or the other proposals have on Cass City village and schools?

No one knows. According to village Supt. Lou LaPonsie, the guess is that passage of Tisch would cut state revenue to the village by 20 percent, plus there would be an additional loss in local property tax revenues.

State revenues to Cass City make up about a fourth

of total revenue received by the village.

The Tisch proposal guarantees funding to state schools at the 1980-81 level. The problem, according to Cass City school Supt. Donald Crouse, is that the legislature has yet to approve 1980-81 state aid to schools.

When it does, because of the state's budget crunch, the amount could be less than received previously.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

Table with columns for Local General Ed. Revenue, State General Ed. Revenue, and Community Education, with sub-columns for 1979-1980 Act. Rec. and 1980-1981 Est. Rec.

EXPENDITURES

The grand total of expenditures for the school in 1979-80 was \$2,847,358 and the estimated cost of running the school in 1980-81 is \$3,172,700.

A YES VOTE FOR TUSCOLA COUNTY PROPOSITION I will distribute approximately \$50,000 per year to local cities and villages for street improvements. Paid for by Tuscola County Proposition I Committee.

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