

Joan Padilla

For

WHITESIDE COUNTY RECORDER WHITESIDE COUNTY, IL

I was born and raised in Sterling, Illinois, the daughter of Jan and Leo Hammes. I have been a resident of Sterling since returning from Carbondale, Illinois where I studied at Southern Illinois University and earned my A.A.S. in Dental Hygiene in 1984. I have worked as a dental hygienist for 27 years, providing gentle dental care to Sterling and surrounding communities.

I married N. Thomas Padilla, my high school sweet heart, in 1987. We have been blessed with four beautiful children: Christian, Leo, Rachel and Vincent. Life keeps us busy with the extracurricular activities, but it is a very enjoyable time.

I attribute my desire to serve my community to the family values instilled in me while growing up in a middle-class family. I have been an active volunteer within the Sterling community and Sacred Heart Church, a CGH Candy Striper, and currently with the PADS shelter, Let's Feed the Children, Thanksgiving Baskets, Church Lector, visiting shut-ins and Earth Day! I have been an elected official and experienced government settings, serving as a Trustee for Sauk Valley Community College for a six year term from 2005 to 2011. I find the experience of volunteer work not only challenging, but inspiring and fulfilling.

Education and learning is important and an integral part of my life and attitude. I am currently attending WIU in the Quad Cities, earning a B.L.A.S. degree with a minor in Sociology. I will graduate in May of 2012. Being a non-traditional student has given me the fortitude and determination I will need for the position I am seeking, as well as critical thinking that will help me maintain the affairs of the County Recorder.

When I am not working or attending to family, I enjoy reading, DIY projects and traveling.

"All great achievements require time." --Maya Angelou

To the residents of Whiteside County: I pledge my time to you, to make the office of County Recorder the best it can be!

Please visit my webpage to learn more: www.electpadilla2012.com