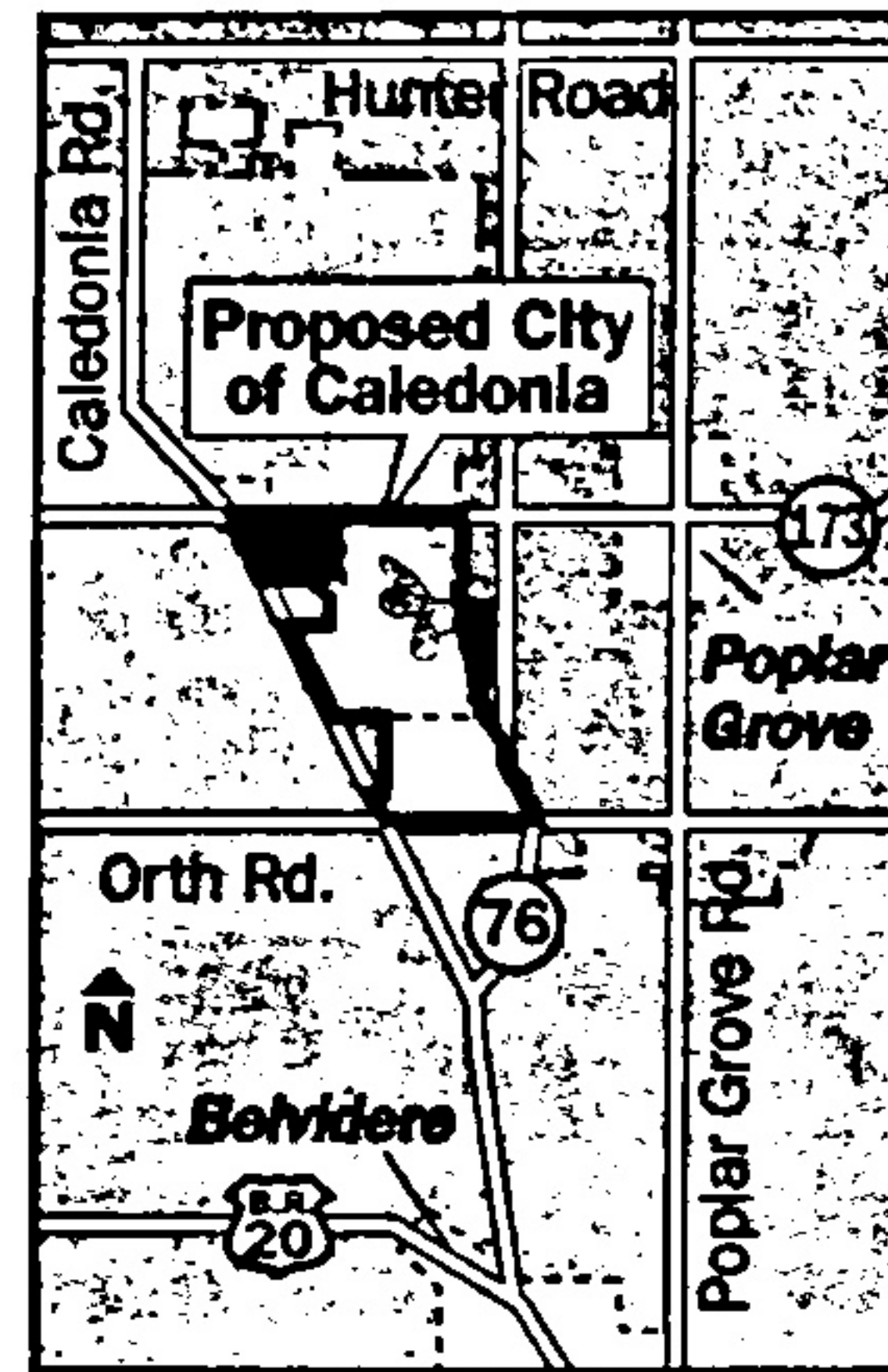


Two proposals for incorporation



City of Caledonia: Candlewick Lake wants to create a new municipality that would include most of its 1,600 acres, now-unincorporated Caledonia and other prime development property.

Villages of Caledonia and Timberlane: Some opponents propose stopping the Candlewick Lake plan by incorporating two smaller areas outside the private community into two villages.

- Proposed Village of Caledonia
- Proposed Village of Timberlane
- Would be annexed after incorporation

PATTY KIM/The Register Star

A tale of (?) cities

■ **Competing proposals:** Opponents of Candlewick Lake residents' efforts to incorporate one city have filed their own petition to create two villages.

By **SCOTT WILLIAMS**

The Register Star

BELVIDERE — Opponents of Candlewick Lake's proposal to form a new city took the offensive Friday with a surprise move to

BOONE COUNTY

establish two new villages.

Homeowners north and south of the 1,600-acre Candlewick development were waiting at the Boone County Courthouse when it opened. They filed petitions seeking referendums to establish the villages of Caledonia and Timberlane in the area where Candlewick wants to incorporate one city.

Candlewick leaders showed up a few hours later with their own

petitions for a referendum for their proposal for the city of Caledonia, which would be the county's second-largest city.

A judge will review the competing proposals, along with any objections, and decide whether to give voters in November the final word in this battle for sovereignty. The first court hearing is scheduled for Wednesday.

One expert called the situation unusual — and unfortunate for Boone County.

Kon Savoy, an urban planner and consultant for the county, said

although it's commonplace for neighborhoods to incorporate as a defense mechanism, he couldn't recall neighboring groups fighting to incorporate the same territory.

Candlewick opponents, however, said they had no choice after the private lake community decided to include hundreds of neighboring homes in its proposed new city.

Working against a Friday deadline to get on the November ballot, representatives from Caledonia and Timberlane met every night

Please see Tale, 4A▷