

Candidates run for House of Representatives

Incumbent wants to continue serving

Incumbent John Faber wants to continue working for the district in the house of representatives.

Mr. Faber has served the 120th district for the past 12 years, in Topeka. Mr. Faber was born and raised in Rawlins County, which is where he lives now and farms.

Mr. Faber said he's had good success over the years as the representative for the area and wants to continue doing a great job for the district.

He is running unopposed on the republican ticket for the primary and will meet Bob Strevey, democrat, in the November general election.

It's important, said Mr. Faber, to get the policy makers involved in the 120th district and what's going on in this part of the state. Communities need to be involved in what's going on in Topeka, he said.

Economic development and the school districts go hand in had. If there isn't economic development the school district will continue to lose kids as parents move to areas that can provide jobs. With smaller schools, the more kids it loses, the threat of closing gets closer. When schools close, towns die, he said.

As a representative, said Mr. Faber, he has made a case for education in western Kansas and why it's important. It needs to be paid for at the same level that the state is paying for education in eastern Kansas. In the bigger cities like Topeka and Wichita there is a bigger tax base, which means more local money can be collected.

Declining enrollment can be solved with economic development, said Mr. Faber. Everyone has to work together.

Mr. Faber said he's always been in favor of wind energy, although that doesn't supply the base needs. In 1973 when manufacturers started to put smog devices on cars and making them more pollution free, that didn't mean those companies stopped making cars nor did people stop driving them. Those companies just started making those cars better.

The coal plant would have been the cleanest one in the world, said Mr. Faber. The contracts for the coal were in place and it would have been a cheap energy supply. It could have brought the cost of electricity down.

The two can work together wind



Faber

energy and the coal plant.

Mr. Faber serves as the chairman of the agriculture and natural resources committee which deals with agriculture issues, wildlife and parks and water issues. Water, he said, is something that will be more contentious. There's a need to learn how to conserve more water and get the reservoirs back up, which will also help with economic development.

He also serves on the education and budget committee, the education committee and the rules and regulations committee.

He and his wife Renee have three boys, two who live in Colby and one who attends college at Washburn. They have six grandkids.

Norcatour man throws hat in race

A Norcatour man has thrown his hat into the race for 120th district for the house of representatives to give people a choice when it comes to election time.

Bob Strevey, registered democrat, has run against incumbent John Faber, republican, four times. Mr. Strevey said he doesn't have any grudges against Mr. Faber, but people should have a choice and that means there needs to be at least two names on the ballot.

Mr. Strevey is a retired teacher, with 31 years under his belt. He and his wife, Kay, live on the family farm outside Norcatour. They have three grown daughters Trudi, Wendy and Hollie. The couple has six grandkids.

Currently he serves as the chairman of the Oberlin-Decatur County Area Economic Development Corp., on the Norcatour United Methodist Church board, on the board of directors for the U.S. 36 Highway Association, president of the Norcatour Citizens Alliance and on the Hunger Task Force for the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church.

State representatives ought to try to help find ways to help with economic development, said Mr. Strevey.

In this part of the state, said Mr. Strevey, we should be working to get more dams built to stop water here, to help recharge the ground water. If dams were built in Decatur County, it would be amazing what could happen. Mr. Strevey said he's never even heard anyone say anything about this.

The state is drawing up the 10 year highway plan now, said Mr. Strevey. This part of the state needs to either try to get on that plan for U.S. 36 or it will get left out.

It's important with education, said Mr. Strevey, that representatives look for what's best for all the kids. It's not about what works for kids in the western part of the state and what works in the eastern part of the state. Everyone has to work together for the greater good, he said.

Obviously in this part of the state, he said, school districts are losing enrollments, but economic development and that goes hand in hand. If there's jobs and the community is a good place to live people will want to live here, which will help with enrollment numbers.

A major issue, he said, is Mr. Faber's votes on key questions about the environment. There's a law in Kansas which allows the setting up of rural water districts to help protect the water from pollution by large entities. In 2007 Mr. Faber supported leadership for a five year suspension of that law. Without that law in place, said Mr. Strevey, anyone could have done anything to the water, there wouldn't have been any protection on the water in this area. Mr. Strevey said he didn't agree with Mr. Faber's decision on that.

There's also the wind energy and coal debate, said Mr. Strevey. During the last legislative session was dominated by energy talks, he said. It ended up in a loss-loss situation because the coal plant



Strevey

didn't get built and wind energy didn't move forward. Both sides were stubborn and there wasn't any solution.

Part of the political process is "you give, I give and that's how you make things work," said Mr. Strevey.

It's amazing that an overwhelming majority of people think it's better to buy coal in Wyoming and bring it here, then develop wind energy here. Wind turbines, said Mr. Strevey are clean and western Kansas has a good place to put those turbines.

Mr. Strevey is running unopposed on the democrat ticket for representative.

Funding offered for flood losses

Eric B. Banks, state conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), has announced an additional \$1.45 million for financial assistance

has been made available to Kansas producers who had conservation practices damaged or destroyed by flooding events in Kansas during 2008 that need to

be repaired and replaced.

Signup date

"Producers need to act quickly and sign up for financial assistance by the Aug. 1 deadline," said Mr. Banks.

"These funds provide an opportunity for producers hit by flooding to repair and/or replace the damaged practices and keep their investment and conservation practices working."

What's eligible for financial assistance

Any structural or vegetative conservation practice originally installed with the conservation's services financial assistance and/or technical assistance and still functioning at the time of the flooding would be eligible. Practices are not eligible if the damage was due to lack of maintenance or caused by a non-flood related event.

"There are a lot of practices out there that would be eligible; for example, washed out terraces and grass seedings, damaged ponds, and streambank stabilization systems that failed," said Troy J. Munsch, assistant state conservationist for programs in Kansas.

For more information

Visit your local conservation office to learn more about this signup. The office is located at your local U.S. Department of Agriculture Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government or on the Internet at office.usda.gov. More information is also available on the Kansas Web site at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov.

Volunteers often see family in new light

Stepping up to help others can yield the unexpected for volunteers, said Charlotte Shoup Olsen, a Kansas State University Research and Extension family systems specialist.

Families who volunteer to help others often begin to see each other in a new light, she said. Seeing parents and siblings in a helping mode can prompt a comment such as "I didn't know my dad could do that."

Working together as a family also can nurture respect for each person and his or her abilities, as well as for the family as a unit and

for the larger, more diverse world, Ms. Olsen said.

Families who would like to volunteer as a family might begin by working at a community food bank, participating in a local fund raiser or benefit, or offering to help a neighbor who is unable to do errands or yard work, she said.

More information on volunteer opportunities in the community is available at county and district K-State Research and Extension offices, Chambers of Commerce, and school and community organizations.

Interesting Facts

- The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screched."
- All of the clocks in the movie "Pulp Fiction" are stuck on 4:20.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver or purple.
- "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".
- All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.
- Almonds are a member of the

peach family.

- Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.
- Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable.
- There are only four words in the English language which end in "-dous": tremendous, Horrendous, stupendous and hazardous.
- Los Angeles's full name is "El Pueblo de Neustra Senora la Reina de los angeles de Porciuncula" and can be abbreviated to 3.63% of its size: "L.A."

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Sunflower Extension District #6
Cheyenne, Sierman, and Wallace Counties

will meet on the 12th day of August, 2008, at 4p.m. at the Commissioners Room, Courthouse, Goodland for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied.

Detailed budget information is available at the Goodland Office (Courthouse), Sunflower Extension District #6 and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2009 Expenditures and Amount of 2008 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2009 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

| FUND | Prior Year Actual 2007 | | Current Year Estimate for 2008 | | Proposed Budget Year for 2009 | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| | Expenditures | Actual Tax Rate* | Expenditures | Actual Tax Rate* | Expenditures | Amount of 2008 Ad Valorem Tax | Actual Tax Rate* |
| General | 317,247 | 1.985 | 388,223 | 2.073 | 428,328 | 274,113 | 2.072 |
| Bond & Interest | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Totals | 317,247 | 1.985 | 388,223 | 2.073 | 428,328 | 274,113 | 2.072 |
| Less: Transfers | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Net Expenditures | 317,247 | | 388,223 | | 428,328 | | |
| Total Tax Levied | 264,875 | | 272,959 | | XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX | | |
| Assessed Valuation: | 133,444,426 | | 131,640,335 | | 132,266,019 | | |

Outstanding Indebtedness.

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|
| Jan 1, | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| G.O. Bonds | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revenue Bonds | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lease Pur. Princ. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 0 |

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

Cindy Burr
Clerk

Upcoming Promotions

For more information contact Casey McCormick at:
The Saint Francis Herald
P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

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