

Stapleton town hall meeting may be last face-to-face time with candidates



MARCIA HORA - THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

A March 8 town hall meeting in the Stapleton Community Center drew a large crowd of constituents who were able to ask questions of State Senator Tom Brewer, Tanya Storer, who is running against Brewer for the 43rd Legislative seat, and Matt Innis, who is running against Republican U.S. Senator Ben Sasse. Brewer and Storer will both advance to the November General Election since they are only two candidates on the May Primary Election ballot.

Logan County might be the last face-to-face meeting in a large group with District 43 Legislative candidates, Tom Brewer and Tanya Storer, and Matt Innis, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate. The town hall was held prior to concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus, and Governor Pete Rickett's call to limit gatherings to 10. There were approximately 75 people in attendance.

Logan County Republican chairman, Karen Hough, organized the town hall and delegate meeting, Sunday, March 8, at the Stapleton Community Center. Logan, McPherson, and Thomas County residents were in attendance and the three candidates had 10 minutes to introduce themselves.

Also in attendance was Dillon Kuehn of Team Sasse, representing Republican U.S. Senate incumbent, Ben Sasse, and Caitlin Holman, Political Director for the Nebraska Republican Party.

Incumbent District 43 representative Tom Brewer grew up on the family farm near Gordon and after graduating from Gordon High School he enlisted in the Nebraska Army National Guard in 1977. He later graduated from Doane College and in 1990 he was mobilized for Operation Desert Storm. He was shot six times in an ambush near Kabul in 2003 and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

Brewer said he has been blessed with a great staff that assists him in his legislative duties and if the voters have liked what he has done the last few years, he would appreciate their vote. He has been adamant in serving Nebraska taxpayers, sup-

porting farmers and ranchers, stopping government overreach, defending constitutional rights, protecting life, and enforcing immigration laws. He believes the second amendment is in jeopardy in Nebraska and said he has a deep appreciation for men and women who wear a uniform and put their lives on the line every day for public safety.

Tanya Storer is seeking election to the Nebraska State Legislature and said she has a vested interest in the future of the 43rd district. She and her husband live north of Whitman and raise beef in the Sandhills. Storer believes we need to be vigilant on tax relief and remove the property-tax structure that is hindering economic growth. She said we need to build up our infrastructure and expand broadband connectivity.

Storer said she was a strong supporter of the second amendment and an advocate of life.

She was elected Cherry County Commissioner in 2014 and re-elected in 2018. She was honored as the 2019 Nebraska Republican Party Volunteer of the Year and currently serves on the Blueprint Nebraska board, the Nebraska DOT Innovation Task Force, the UNMC Advisory Board, the Region 4 Behavioral Health Board, and the Niobrara Council Executive Board.

The Nebraska Legislative District 43 is comprised of Blaine, Brown, Cherry, Dawes, Grant, Hooker, Keya Paha, Logan, Loup, McPherson, Sheridan, and Thomas counties, and the eastern portion of Box Butte County. It is home to more than 37,500 Nebraskans.

Matt Innis is running against current Senator Ben Sasse for the U.S. Senate. He said his top priority as a Nebraska representative is supporting farmers and ranchers. He will push to challenge the World Trade Organization's threats and give America the authority to control food safety and security by supporting Country of Origin Labeling for U.S. meat products (COOL).

Innis said he was against legalization of medical marijuana and supports a measure that would limit Members of Congress to two six-year terms in the U.S. Senate and six two-year terms in the House of Representatives.

He also touched on his opposition of Red Flag Laws, support for President Trump, and the right to bear arms. Innis is 100% pro-life and believes the government is required to do two things - protect us militarily and build public infrastructure.

Innis has received endorsements by Scottsbluff County and Lincoln County GOP.

Dillon Kuehn of Team Sasse passed out folders containing information for voters and a letter from Senator Sasse stating the choice facing the American people in 2020 is clear: civics or socialism. This is a big year in the life of our country. "National Democrats have their eyes set on Nebraska and we do not have the luxury of sitting back and assuming that because we've been a Red state in the past that there isn't work to be done. They're targeting our Electoral Vote in Omaha at the Presidential level, and they got a Bernie Sanders-AOC backed Democrat

challenging Don Bacon in one of the most important Congressional races in America."

Sasse said as he has been out campaigning here's what he's heard:

Nebraskans care about the sanctity of life, growing our trading markets, and confirming judges who believe in the Constitution. Nebraskans care about limited government, freedom, and the America idea. Nebraskans care about teaching civics to the next generation.

President Trump, Governor Pete Ricketts, Governor Dave Heineman, Governor Kay Orr, and U.S. Senator Deb Fischer have endorsed Sasse. Nebraska Farm Bureau, National Right to Life, and the Nebraska Family Alliance PAC have endorsed him.

All three candidates had the opportunity to answer written questions from constituents during the "Question & Answer" segment of the town hall.

Logan County Republican Delegate, Caitlin Holman, Nebraska Republican Party Representative explained the responsibilities of delegates to the Nebraska State Republican Convention that convenes June 5 and 6 in Kearney. Congressional District Caucuses made up of the State Convention delegates from each of Nebraska's three congressional districts elect the nine district National Convention delegates (three per congressional district) according to the results of the primary.

Skip Hecox was elected Logan County delegate and Rich Burnside, alternate, to the convention.

Hecox also accepted the position and will be the new Logan County Republican Chairman.

Ewoldt's Grocery sees up-tick in sales

Ewoldt's Grocery, Thedford, has seen an up-tick in sales due to COVID-19 as shoppers stay closer to home and practice social distancing.

Allen and Velma say things have slowed down a bit and it has given them a chance to build up their inventory, although paper products and sanitizing supplies are not yet where they need to be.

"Please be considerate of your neighbors and purchase the items you need," Allen said. "The initial blast has subsided and AWG is getting things back on track."

If customers would like to email orders to ewoldts.grocery@outlook.com, they will be contacted when the order is ready for pick up.

They are also delivering to the elderly, those who are feeling ill, or anyone who might be immune compromised.

"We are happy to have your order ready for you and bring it out so you don't feel you need to come into the store. Your health and the health of our staff is on the forefront of our minds. Even if you feel the slightest sniffle or light sore throat or allergy symptoms, let us bring groceries out of the store to you."

Ewoldt's is also asking

you only use bags from the store at the present time.

"Please do not bring reusable bags or return used plastic bags," they said.

The Ewoldts say it has been challenging to keep the store as well stocked as they have due to restrictions from the warehouse. These restrictions are applied to all stores to keep up with the demand. Milk has been increased and they currently are not getting tobacco products since each carton of cigarettes counts as a case.

They are limiting brands of cleaners or canned goods to one brand. This has helped them order more bread, milk, eggs, and flour.

"These have been tough decisions we have to make at this time, but it is the direction we feel we need to go to ensure your grocery needs."

The April 9 issue of the Herald will be the last one containing a sale flyer. Ewoldt's will be suspending the flyer until they are able to catch up with items from the warehouse.

The Ewoldt's thank you for your support and are working hard to be the best small-town grocery store they can to serve the Thedford area.



Please Give Blood.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be coming to Thedford High School on Wednesday, April 15, and will be set up from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The American Red Cross is closely monitoring the evolving situation regarding the outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). While there is no evidence that this coronavirus or any respiratory illness can be transmitted through a blood transfusion, out of the abundance of caution, we are taking actions to help ensure the safety of our donors, recipients, volunteers, staff, and the blood supply.

Individuals should postpone their donation for 28 days following travel to China, Hong Kong, Macau, as well as Iran, Italy and South Korea; and diagnosis of COVID-19, contact with a person who has or is suspected to have the virus.

If you are healthy, please

come donate! A single donation can save three lives and will help a senior with their college education.

If you would like to make an appointment contact Jamie Taylor at 308-645-7291 or one of the seniors. The seniors will be contacting community members.

Please note all donors will be asked to have their temperature taken before being permitted into the blood drive. If a donor has a temperature greater than 99.5 degrees F, they will be asked to come back to donate when they are healthy and will be asked to leave the drive.

Hand sanitizer will be available at check-in, health history and refreshments areas.

Your donation is needed more than ever as blood supplies dwindle across the United States. Giving blood is a good way to help others in this trying time.

Early Voter Applications In the Mail

The Thomas County Clerk, along with the Nebraska Secretary of State's office, has taken steps to make sure all registered voters in the county have the opportunity to vote.

Governor Pete Ricketts and Secretary of State, Bob Evnen have stated the polls will be open, but we are not sure that will be the case in the coming weeks. As a precaution we have mailed out early voter applications to all registered voters in Thomas County.

"We strongly suggest that you use the application to vote by mail. If you

have any questions about the applications, please feel free to contact our office at 308-645-2261," Thomas County Clerk Lorissa Hartman said. "The applications were mailed out Friday, April 3. Please allow a few days for them to get to you. If you do not receive one and feel you should have, please call the office and we will figure out why."

These applications may be returned by mail, email, fax or using the drop box inside the front doors of the courthouse during regular business

hours.

If you are not registered to vote in Thomas County you may do so by going to <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/>. You may also use this website to change your political party, if you choose to do so.

If you have any questions concerning the election, please feel free to contact the office at 308-645-2261. The fax number is 308-645-2623. Email: clerk@thomas.nacone.org Mailing address: Thomas County Clerk, P.O. Box 226, Thedford, NE 69166.

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