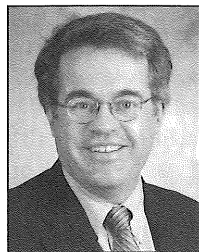


It's the district's office

Morrow continues his dedication to community service

By **SONJA HEGMAN**

Although he is roughly 90 miles from his residence, Rep. Terry Morrow (DFL-St. Peter) never feels far from home in his office. He is collecting items from his district to hang on his office walls.



Rep. Terry Morrow

seat after learning that incumbent Rep. Ruth Johnson, who served three non-consecutive terms in office, would not run again. Johnson was a friend and supporter during his campaign, he said.

"It was the passing of the baton," he said.

A resident of St. Peter for 12 years with his wife, Martha, Morrow dedicated himself to community service after a 1998 tornado

damaged the community. He served on the St. Peter Board of Education for several years, including three as board chairman. He also chaired the Minnesota Valley Education District, which provides special education services for seven school districts.

"Minnesota is a place to come together and help others," he said, as well as a good place to raise a family. Morrow has two daughters, Sally, 10, and Maggie, 13. "Each of us has a set of skills and abilities. I still can't believe I have this honor (of serving my district)."

A licensed attorney in California and Minnesota, Morrow teaches communication studies at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter during the fall semester. While in California, he practiced civil litigation, representing corporations and police departments.

The big issues affecting Morrow's district are property taxes, education and health care.

DISTRICT 23A

2002 population: 36,889

Largest city: North Mankato

Counties: Nicollet and Sibley

Top concerns: Property taxes, agriculture, education and health care

But his district is highly agricultural, he said. Property tax increases have hit farms, and limited farm families' income in his district.

With an "enthusiastic" outdoor community in his district, Morrow said there are concerns about a pesticide problem in lakes and rivers. He wants to address those issues during his time in office.

In addition to being vice chairman of the House K-12 Finance Division, Morrow serves on the House Agriculture, Rural Economies and Veterans Affairs Committee; House Game, Fish and Forestry Division; House Telecommunications Regulation and Infrastructure Division; and the House Transportation Finance Division.