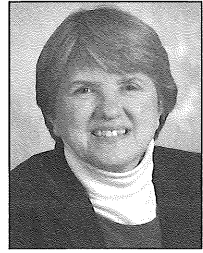


Leading to this moment

Masin brings varied experiences to State Capitol

By **MIKE COOK**

Rep. Sandy Masin (R-Eagan) has been around government for more than 20 years. Now it is in a different role.



Rep. Sandy Masin

The former city council member, community television political moderator, Capitol tour guide and House staff member edged Tim Wilkin, a four-term incumbent, by 57 votes to represent parts of two large southern suburbs.

Masin spent nine years with the Minnesota Historical Society in the 1980s, where she led Capitol tours; was a House staffer in 1990-91; was the volunteer coordinator at the Shakopee women's prison from 1991-95; and served on the Eagan City Council from 1993-2000.

Beginning in 1988, Masin spent nine years talking to politicians on "Legislative Update," produced by Burnsville/Eagan Community Television. There she held regular discussions on issues of the day with legislators serving in St. Paul and Washington D.C.

Transportation might be the largest issue in her district, which includes both Interstate 35E and heavily traveled Cedar Avenue. Many of her constituents also regularly drive nearby Interstate 35W. One of her committee assignments is the House Transportation Finance Division.

"We just need to make headway on getting our transportation systems current," said Masin. She served as chair of the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority, and helped organize the Suburban Transit Association, a partnership of several suburban transit systems. "When you're in Eagan around rush hour and you look at (Cedar Avenue) and you

DISTRICT 38A
2002 population: 36,636 Largest city: Eagan County: Dakota Top concerns: Transportation and education funding

look at 35E or into Burnsville on 35W, they're just major parking lots. Public transit, to me, is really important because you can't do it all by cars."

Education funding is something she heard a lot about while door-knocking in a district that is home to three school districts.

She believes that approving some sort of property tax relief will positively impact education, as would providing health care to all youngsters.

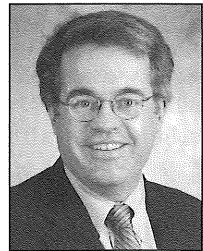
"Some of these kids are coming to school with problems that make it difficult for them to learn," she said. "We want the kids to get the most out of their learning experience."

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

"This is the district's office," Morrow said. "I just happen to work here."

Morrow decided to run for the House 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.