

Today's weather



HIGH: 62
LOW: 48

Sunrise: 7:42
Sunset: 6:42

THE GAZETTE

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WEDNESDAY, October 18, 2023

\$2.00

Wadsworth Area Chamber of Commerce hosts special candidate meet-and-greet

Patrick Rhonemus
The Gazette

WADSWORTH — The Wadsworth Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a special meet-

and-greet on Monday night to allow the Wadsworth community to interact with the Wadsworth Board of Education candidates. The school board candidates

are Tim Beck, Melanie Raines and incumbent Jill Stevens. The three candidates are running for the two open positions on the Board of Education.

The event started with Wadsworth Area Chamber of Commerce President Matt Addis introducing each candidate.

See **WADSWORTH, A7**

WADSWORTH

From A1

The event allowed each candidate to speak for three minutes about themselves, their backgrounds and how it applies to the school board and their visions for the future of the school district.



Beck

"The Chamber board of directors wants to provide an opportunity for Wadsworth citizens to learn about the candidates," Addis said.

Beck said that he has always been an advocate for teenagers and has a deep connection to teachers and educators through several family members. He said that taking care of teachers is just as important as taking care of the students.



Raines

Melanie Raines discussed the importance of improving student achievement levels while being responsible

for the resources that the board is given. She said that there are a number of barriers that affect the students both inside and outside the school, and she hopes that the board will be able to address these barriers to help the

students succeed.

Jill Stevens, president of the Wadsworth Board of Education, said that through her experience on the board of education during the pandemic, she has learned that the leadership and teachers of the district are great at what they do even in the face of challenges. She hopes to continue to contribute her leadership experience to the board.



Stevens

The event also included an explanation of Issue 15, which is a proposed tax levy renewal

that would benefit several Medina County human service agencies. Medina County Job and Family Services Director Debbie Kiley, and the ADAMH Board Planning and Program Director Tiffany Shelton explained the importance of the renewal of the human services levy.

Wadsworth Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Janie Parish said that this event was a great opportunity for the community to be able to engage with the candidates in an easily approachable manner. She said that even if attendees did not talk with the candidates directly, they were still able to get a general idea of what the candidates bring to the table.

Contact reporter Patrick Rhonemus at (330) 721-4050 or prhonemus@medina-gazette.com.

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