Regional Debate Set For Monday

(KAIR/KNZA)--What will likely be the only debate prior to the November 6th general election to include Republican candidates overseen by the Republican Team Debate Committee is set to happen on Monday evening.

Originating in Atchison, at the O'Malley-McAllister Auditorium on the campus of Benedictine College, the debate is arranged by radio stations KAIR 93.7 FM, in Atchison and KNZA 103.9 FM, in Hiawatha. Both stations will broadcast the forum live, and it will also be available online, streamed live through our website, mscnews.net by clicking here.

With questions submitted by the public, the forum will be moderated by KAIR News Director David Meyer, who says "We look forward to presenting a professional and fair debate based from the citizens' questions enough to give voters the opportunity to make an informed decision at the polls."

The only candidate that will not attend personally is Republican U.S. Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins; however, she will be represented at the forum by her campaign manager, Bill Roe. Jenkins' challengers, Democrat Tobias (SHLINGUN-SEEPEN) Schlingensiepen and Libertarian Dennis Hawver, seeking Jenkins' 2nd District Congressional seat, will be in attendance.

The debate will also feature the race for 1st District Kansas Senate, with incumbent Republican Dennis Pyle set to face his challenger, Democrat Steve Lukert.

The race for Kansas House of Representatives District 62 will also take center stage, as incumbent Republican Randy Garber will debate Democratic challenger Dennis Stones, while the Kansas House District 63 race debate will feature Democratic incumbent Jerry Henry and Republican challenger Stephen Bodenhausen.

The forum will also focus on the local Atchison County Sheriff's race, as Republican challenger Jack Laurie meets Democratic incumbent John Calhoon.

Each race will have a total of 30 minutes on stage, depending on the amount of questions.

Pyle, Garber and Bodenhausen all accepted to attend only once the debate was deemed acceptable by the Republican Team Debate Committee, with those candidates turning down other forums if the committee, organized by representatives from the Nemaha, Jackson and Brown County Republican parties, did not give approval.

Acceptance hinges on a set of ten criteria devised by the committee which organizers of Monday's debate were able to meet with few modifications.

The debate forum is set to begin at 7:00 and will be heard live on KAIR/KNZA, and streamed online at mscnews.net here.

The public is invited to attend the forum, and see the candidates in person, at the O'Malley McAllister auditorium on the campus of Atchison's Benedictine College.

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