A new day is dawning here in the towns and on the farms and ranches of Central Montana.

We who are so fortunate to live here are blessed with great little towns centered in a truly magnificent land.

We residents of today did not create this good place to live, however. People before us made it good and handed it down to us for safe keeping. Now our turn arrives to pass it further along the river of time. We must also act to make this a place where the next generation can live, work and play – so they can say in their turn that they are blessed to live in a great little town centered in a truly magnificent land.

Should you elect me to represent you in the State Legislature my main ambition will be to prove up on this duty to future people of Central Montana.

Politics should be much more than just a cookbook of us-against-them arguments. Good political leaders offer a vision for making our county, state and republic strong, and our people secure in the blessings of liberty.

Strong, prosperous, vital communities all share one common feature regardless of where they are located. A healthy community has at its heart a solid population of young families with children.

In my view good politics are not organized around political party platforms. Good politics are positive answers to the question: “what must we do to make our town attractive to, and sustaining of, young families with children?” Answer that question and everything else falls into place.

We all can recite the more obvious answers: good jobs, good schools, quality healthcare, local shopping, diverse social amenities, welcoming churches, access to outdoor recreation, and so on.

The local economy certainly is the foundation of our way of life. The more diverse the ways people earn a living the more stable the economy will be. A solid base of profitable agriculture and livestock production enhanced by commerce, manufacturing, public services and tourism make a good recipe for prosperity.

But there is a less obvious need shared by young adults – the desire to live in a community where people are optimistic about the future and share confidence that we will make a better path toward a good life together. Success always starts with a positive attitude.

We seniors of today are handing the future to younger generations whose most common anthem is “NO FEAR.” We should feed that attitude not discourage it. The worst mistake we as a community of today can make is to send a legacy of fear into the future. And the worst expression of such fear would be to fail to take social risks and make public investments because they are scary changes to a familiar and comfortable past. We Americans would still be huddled up in 13 little colonies on the east coast if our ancestors had obeyed such fear.

So our challenge, as residents of an already great place to live, is more complicated than to simply “keep what we have.” Change is ongoing; the challenge is to work together to actively create a future that sustains our enduring traditional values even as it provides for the changing needs of our people in a different tomorrow.

That is hard to do. No one person or political party has all the answers. People have to pull together, talk to each other and trust each other.

The time for counting ballots draws near. Now you must decide the direction we will take in Central Montana – either toward a future of new opportunities and preservation of our many blessings – or down the path rural counties of Montana recently have been following toward population loss and slow economic decline.

Rural Montana communities such as those in HD29 can be and should be gardens for the future – not economic backwaters.

I believe we can preserve what we have and build a better tomorrow for our children. Give me your vote and we will make a new day in Central Montana together. Thank You.

Elect Ron Moody to represent Central Montana HD 29 in the State Legislature

The Future Begins Now...

Elect Ron Moody to represent Central Montana HD 29 in the State Legislature

Paid for by Ron Moody for Montana HD29, P.O. Box 576, Lewistown, MT 59457, Rachel Stansberry, treasurer