

By Tim Linscott

Managing Editor

Sid Dinsdale of Omaha threw his hat into the Republican senate race in September and has been on the road meeting people all over the state.

Dinsdale, a native of Palmer, whose family founded Pinnacle Bank, was in Grant on Monday, Oct. 7 to meet with locals and discuss issues.

Dinsdale, a Republican, has never run for political office before, which he said that is an advantage in his bid for the senate seat.

"This is not a career for me. I think some people vote differently when politics is their career," Dinsdale said. "No one will tell me how to vote. I want to stop the overreaching of government in our lives. Let Americans pursue their own self-interests within the laws and rules and lead this nation."

He plans on serving two terms, if elected, and then stepping aside.

Dinsdale said he still is involved with farming and after nearly 40 years in banking is as comfortable in a rural setting like Grant as he is at an Omaha chamber meeting.

Some of the hot button issues Dinsdale spoke to locals about included the government shut down and paying off the nation's debt. He supports raising the debt limit.

"We can't damage the full faith and credit of the United States," Dinsdale said. "I don't like the fact we're spending so much, it is a mess, but we have to pay our interest on our treasury bills and our debt."

On the current health care issue he explained the nation being under a single payer system is wrong.

He supported three divisions of health care: a cash division (for minor instances such as a cold); catastrophic, such as cancer or serious illnesses that would necessitate insurance coverage and charity care.

Education is another aspect of the nation that Dinsdale worries about heavy government involvement could greatly harm.

In dealing with all of the issues, having experience in a rural setting, growing up in Palmer and still being involved in the farming industry and having an extensive business background will

only help him become a good leader for the state.

"I am frustrated like a lot of Americans today. We need to make tough decisions," Dinsdale said. "We have to fix some things and change some things in this country. I am only one man, but I want to be a citizen senator and what is best for the people."