

Republican

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June 2020 - Republican State Convention Edition!

A Publication of the South Dakota Republican Party

DONALD TRUMP, MIKE ROUNDS, AND DUSTY JOHNSON TO LEAD REPUBLICAN TICKET IN NOVEMBER ELECTION

It was early in the evening as election results came in on June 2nd, and media outlets wasted little time in declaring winners in the primary election races for United States Senate and Congress.

Incumbent US Senator Mike Rounds, a two term Republican Governor who has enjoyed high approval marks in his first term as a US Senator took an early command throughout the entire US Senate race against his primary opponent, Rapid City State Representative Scyller Borglum.

Early on in the race, Borglum found Rounds a difficult opponent, and was never able to find an issue to dent his nigh-invincible connection with the Republicans



can nomination on a vote of 77% to 23%.

With Donald Trump at the top of the ticket, Rounds faces a Democrat opponent in November, with Johnson facing a Libertarian in the Congressional contest.

Trump, Rounds and Johnson will be joined on the State-

of the state.

The evening ended early on a commanding 75%-25% victory for the incumbent US Senator to represent the party at the ballot box for another election. Incumbent Congressman Dusty Johnson enjoyed similar popularity throughout his campaign against his primary opponent former State Representative Liz May.

After announcing for the office earlier this year, Elizabeth May had attempted to challenge Johnson on his agriculture bonafides, despite the appointment and service of the freshman Congressman to the Committee on Agriculture.

Her campaign was unable to find any traction on that or any other issue, leaving Johnson a clear field to the Republi-

wide ticket by a Public Utilities Commission candidate to be selected at this years' State Republican Convention.

Currently, the only candidate in the race and presumptive nominee is PUC Commissioner Gary Hanson.

Please support all our Republican candidates in this falls' election!

Proud Sponsor of the 2020 Republican State Convention



GOP ANNOUNCES THAT 2020 GOP STATE CONVENTION WILL 'VIRTUALLY' BE ONE OF THE BEST PARTY GATHERINGS TO DATE

Convention will go electronic to maintain social distancing

The South Dakota Republican Party announced today that the 2020 Republican State Convention is changing format due to the predicted size of the gathering, and will instead be held electronically to ensure safe social distancing as a result of the Chinese Coronavirus.

The South Dakota Republican State Convention will be held on June 20th, starting at 10 AM Central Time. The Republican Party will be utilizing an electronic system to record votes by Voatz, a for-profit, private mobile election voting application which was successfully used this year for Republican Conventions in Utah and Arizona. Ellie Highstreet, 2020 Republican State Convention Planner indicated "We have been working diligently with our partners to deliver the best experience for an electronic 2020 Republican State Convention for attendees. Although it will look different, the purpose remains the same, to connect and conduct business for the South Dakota Republican Party."

Nimit Sawhney, Co-Founder, and CEO of the

company notes "Voatz is proud to partner with the South Dakota Republican Party to securely enable their delegates to vote, while keeping them safe and able to celebrate the spirit of the convention during this uncertain time. Voatz is excited to replicate the successes we've seen in the Utah and Arizona Republican Party Conventions, where record numbers of delegates submitted their votes seamlessly. More than 80% of the delegates in Utah expressed a positive experience at the all virtual convention, and only 13% prefer returning to the traditional, in-person experience. We hope for an even better experience for South Dakota Republican Party delegates, where voters in the state will, for the first time, be able to vote through a mobile app in an election."

Voatz is a mobile elections platform that enables voters to verify their identity and vote without needing to be physically present at a polling place or mailing in a ballot. The South Dakota Republican Party chose Voatz as the mobile plat-

Continued on page 11

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News from the Republican National Committee



We are living in unprecedented times. Our Republic is under attack like never before. Liberal Democrats, with the aid of their allies in the mainstream media, are waging a relentless war against President Trump. They purposely create unrest, riots, fear and economic hardship just to advance their far-left political agenda. The Obama administration and his appointees even fabricated false documents and sanctioned illegal activities to undermine, if not completely overthrow, President Trump. And, make no mistake, their assault on Trump is also an attack on all of us who support him.

Across the USA, liberals are using every means imaginable to destroy the integrity of our elections. The Democrats have seized the coronavirus pandemic to push their crooked restructuring of American voting laws. Governor Newsom in California—one of several blue states where some counties have more people registered to vote than there are even people living there—issued an executive order to send absentee ballots to inactive (i.e. dead, imprisoned or moved away) voters. In Pennsylvania, left-wing legal organizations sued to allow ballots to be counted after Election Day. In Florida, Democrats pushed supervisors to overlook ballot harvesting.

Stay strong and keep the faith, however, because the Republican National Committee is fighting and winning against these subversive attacks. We have spent tens of millions of dollars on top-notch lawyers to stop illegal activities. We have also been educating Americans on what's happening and the importance of voting integrity. Polling shows this campaign is proving effective. Consider these statistics from a national survey of registered voters:

- 84% want ballot signatures verified
- 67% oppose ballot harvesting
- 79% prefer to have ballots cast in person
- 62% are concerned about fraud in a total mail-in system
- 80% support voter identification.

The fact that Democrats are willing to continue undermining voting integrity despite public opposition only proves that the only thing they truly care about is winning elections any way they can.

Also take solace knowing that we have the ultimate fighter representing us in the White House. At a time when Nancy Pelosi was ripping up his State of the Union speech and the media was pushing the demonstrably false impeachment narrative, President Trump moved to protect Americans from the Covid outbreak. Now, when liberal organizations are hiring protesters and busing them in from across the nation to foment unrest, President Trump is standing firm for the rule of law and the safety of law-abiding Americans. Time and again, he has shown he is the right leader at the right time.

I also encourage all of you to take pride that you are actively supporting the Republican party. Your work at the grassroots level IS making a big difference. You are fighting to preserve the country we all love. Ronald Reagan once said that, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.” I believe that freedom itself is under attack right now. If liberal Democrats succeed in undermining the uprightness of elections then they can threaten our very form of government. If they can destroy the respect for law enforcement then they can further their agenda of stirring up chaos.

Fortunately, by working together all of us—President Trump, the RNC, and you—can win this fight and pass the gift of freedom onto the next generation.

For the party,

Sincerely, Ried Holien
National Committeeman



Congratulations to all the primary election candidates. You are all winners for doing what many others have not done. The organization, the campaign, the message, the volunteers, the costs, the long hours and on and on coupled with the challenge of doing this during a pandemic. Thank you for loving South Dakota this much! My hat is off to each of you. Best wishes to those who won. May you seek council and direction from the Lord on the decisions you will need to make.

We can all agree that these are truly challenging times! There is not another leader that could have matched President Trump’s strong leadership in navigating these troubled waters. I believe he has been put in this position by God ‘for such a time as this.’ We must continue to cover him and all our leaders with prayer for safety and wisdom. The President and “Opening Up America” are moving toward reopening our country. The pundits are wrong again! Under President Trump 2.5M jobs were added in May as opposed to the predicted loss of 7.5M. Unemployment stands at 13.3% rather than the 20% expected. Way to go Mr. President! Again, thank you Governor Noem for relying on the common sense of South Dakotans! COVID19 has had a long-term toll on our health and wellbeing. Thankfully, South Dakota is open for business while being smart, the envy of so many other states.

The President’s first duty is to protect the safety of the American people. The President announced he would take immediate action to stop the violence and restore safety to our country by mobilizing federal resources and encouraging governors to deploy the National Guard. We are grateful for the leadership of Governor Noem for her swift actions in our state. Looting and vandalism should not drown out the voices of peaceful protests. We had a great RNC meeting in January, however our April spring training meeting was canceled. We did have a legal compliance webinar in May, thankful for technology that helps us stay in touch. We have also had several informational calls.

The RNC continues to fight back the Democrats’ assault on the integrity of our elections by intervening in left-wing backed lawsuits across the country. The Republican National Committee is playing a full game, both offense and defense and has recently doubled its legal budget to \$20 million. Polling indicates that 62% of voters believe there is fraud in U.S. elections and 57% of voters believe this fraud happens more often when casting ballots by mail. People want voter identification and signature verification, 79% prefer ballots cast in person. The joint committee of the Trump campaign and the RNC raised \$154 million in the fourth quarter of 2019. Over a million doors have been knocked on with the grassroots army spreading the message of President Trump and Republicans winning agenda.

The RNC is moving full speed ahead planning an in-person, energetic, five-star National Convention while maintaining safety. You have heard there are challenges with North Carolina’s Governor Cooper to hold the full convention in Charlotte. North Carolina is still in Phase 2 of easing restrictions. RNC Chairman Ronna McDaniel and Republican National Convention President/CEO Marcia Lee Kelly are working tirelessly to ensure the nomination of Donald J. Trump for a second term as President of the United States. All eyes are on us to showcase our ideas, our principles, our leaders and the historic results they have produced for the good of all Americans. As a member of the Committee on Arrangements, I know that every detail is being considered for an outstanding experience for delegates, alternates and guests. Final decisions are still being made as to the where and how things will come about.....stay tuned!

Once again, it is an honor to represent you on the RNC. I am running for reelection and asking for your vote at the virtual South Dakota Republican Party convention June 20. It’s been a privilege to serve on the Rules Committee, the Faith Engagement Committee, Faith Advisory Board, the Conservative Steering Committee, the Committee on Arrangements, an officer for the Midwest region, and representing you at every meeting and session. As I have stated in the past, I will continue to ‘run to the battle’ for South Dakota.

Sincerely, Sandye Kading
National Committeewoman

Find out more about the South Dakota Republican Party

www.southdakotagop.com



www.facebook.com/SDGOP

Paid for and authorized by the South Dakota Republican Party.
PO Box 1099, Pierre, SD 57501. Justin Bell, Treasurer

Gary Hanson: It is an honor to work for you as your PUC Commissioner.



Gary Hanson is in his third term on the South Dakota PUC. He has served in many leadership roles including six times as the PUC’s Chairman, and representing South Dakota on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners’ Committee on Electricity.

He served on the executive committee and as treasurer of the Organization of MISO States, and on the steering committee of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative.

He serves on the Advisory Council for New Mexico State University’s Center for Public Utilities, is Vice President of the 14 state Mid-America Regulatory Conference and working groups on; Electric Vehicles, Utilities for Low Income Families, and Conflict of Interest Policy.

I love our state and I am committed to work energetically for you and your family’s future and continue to advocate for all the citizens of South Dakota. I will continue to protect our quality of life, but first I must win a statewide campaign. I am asking for your support.

Our lives and the economic vitality of every business in our state are affected by the decisions made by the Public Utilities Commission. I have worked to preserve dependable and safe utility services at a fair and affordable price; promote responsible renewable energy, enhance communication services, provide for a transparent and fiscally responsible PUC, and protect our citizens. I hope to continue to work in the PUC to make the quality of life in South Dakota even better.

My pledge to you as your friend in the PUC:

- Relentlessly pursue dependable and safe utility services at a fair and affordable price! South Dakota’s cost of electricity is in the lower half in the nation! Thanks to a fast acting PUC, there were \$28 million in refunds of utility bills in 2018! Additionally, there is an ongoing annual savings of \$10.5 Million!

- Protect Consumers. The PUC resolves around 2,000 consumer challenges every year. I conceived the Ring Fencing requirement for public utilities. This law protects consumers by prohibiting utilities from engaging in some investment activities that have caused bankruptcy.
- Support responsible renewable energy. Renewable energy must pass all legal tests and we must not allow other states to affect our utility costs with their liberal laws.
- Successfully represent your interests as Chairman of the PUC and as an officer serving on several official national and regional regulatory organizations.
- Enhance communication services. Many hundreds of new cell towers have been erected. Let’s keep expanding access to high speed Internet across and throughout the state; especially to unserved and under-served areas!
- A Transparent and Open PUC. All Commission meetings are live on the Internet and are posted on the PUC web site and archived with all documents filed with the PUC.
- Fiscally Responsible. We run bare bones PUC budgets and save South Dakotans significant tax dollars every year.

The PUC is a very dynamic and highly technical position that requires maturity, experience, impartiality, and a great deal of continuous study. We rule on an average of 170 dockets every year. Some dockets are a hundred pages long and a few are even thousands of pages.

I am excited to continue serving the people of our great state. However, I cannot do it without support. Thank you in advance for your consideration and for helping guarantee a brighter future for South Dakota families.

Sandy and I will greatly appreciate your support!

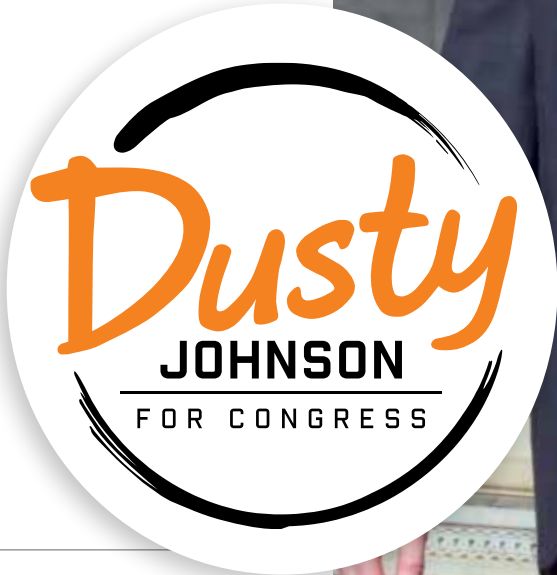
Gary

CONGRESSMAN DUSTY JOHNSON

Getting it done
IN D.C.

I’m proud of everything I’ve accomplished during my time in Congress, including:

- Fighting for meaningful Coronavirus relief for small businesses & workers
- Securing relief for cattle ranchers and farmers as part of the CARES Act
- Ensuring passage of USMCA
- Helping President Trump fund the border wall
- Voting against impeachment
- Advocating for strong pro-life policies
- Fighting for Ellsworth AFB and Joe Foss Field
- Opposing the Green New Deal
- Opposing illegal immigrant voting
- Defending 2nd Amendment gun rights
- Improving our nation’s defense



11 WOMEN LEADING FRESHMAN CLASS OF GOP CANDIDATES TO VICTORY IN NOVEMBER



Taylor Rehfeldt

As Taylor Rehfeldt and Bethany Soye waited on Wednesday morning for overdue election results from Minnehaha County, these two freshman candidates for office didn’t realize that they were part of something historic in South Dakota.

When numbers finally came in, it was immediately evident that Rehfeldt had handily won one of the two seats in her House District, and it was just a matter of time for it to be made official.

For others, it was a waiting game that seemed to move along at a glacial pace.

Soye watched as her margin that started out 200 votes behind on Tuesday night slowly shrank as absentee ballots were counted on Wednesday. Until finally in the evening she found herself 8 votes ahead with 5 precincts to go – a margin which never wavered. And she joined Rehfeldt across the first way point in her race to be a state legislator.

In a year where South Dakota celebrates and honors 100 years of suffrage which coincides with the election and leadership of Governor Kristi Noem, South Dakota’s first female Governor, candidates such as Taylor and Bethany each decided it was their time to step forward and run for office as Republican candidates. And they find themselves as part of one of the Republican Party’s most diverse incoming freshman classes of candidates.

In 2020, the South Dakota Republican Party’s freshman class of state legislators of twenty-three new candidates includes eleven women who are running in their first race to take part in the legislative process in Pierre. If all are successful in their elections, overall numbers of GOP women who serve in the state legislature will increase from 5 to 8 in the State Senate, and from 15 to 17 in the State House of representatives.

Each of these candidates are professionals who decided that it was the right time in their lives and careers to step forward to be part of something bigger, and to give back to their communities.



Sydney Davis

Candidates such as Republican Sydney Davis who ran in District 17 ran with a very strong 41% in a 4-way house race decided it was her time to run because she was inspired by her work on health care legislation.

Davis noted, “I felt a calling to serve and give back to my community after spending time in Pierre this past session working on healthcare legislation, Senate Bill 50. I’ve lived in South Dakota my whole life. I grew up farming and ranching outside of Mitchell. This state has provided me great opportunities, and I want to ensure those opportunities exist for future generations. I have a unique perspective to offer as a parent of a young child, along with my diverse background in healthcare and agriculture.”

Like Sydney Davis, work on Senate Bill 50 also brought Taylor Rehfeldt to a decision to run.

“I decided to run last fall after leading a grassroots initiative to improve South Dakota healthcare through Senate Bill 50. The “heart” and “why” of SB-50 was to improve access to healthcare in both urban and rural communities. The grassroots effort was about a three year strategic process. Throughout those three years, I had the privilege to learn from current healthcare leaders and community advocates. They taught me the value of collaboration, perseverance, and how to have “tough skin”. Additionally, I had a few mentors step in and encourage me to run for office,” Taylor said.

State Representative Rhonda Milstead has had the opportunity to serve in Pierre as an appointee of Governor Kristi Noem for the past two legislative sessions, but the 2020 primary election was her first test as a candidate - one she passed with flying colors, because of her commitment and belief in her constituents and the work they do to build their communities.

“My desire to serve comes from the people of South Dakota. They are a diverse group of people. There are the early builders, great grandparents and great-great grandparents, many of who started with nothing but a great work ethic and exceptional values,” Milstead said.



Sen. Jessica Castleberry

“They carved out farms and towns, established a constitution and laws that have stood the test of time for all people. Take a drive around Sioux Falls, Brookings, Aberdeen, Rapid City and many, many of our rural communities and see for yourself the variety of inspiration that is succeeding in a state that fosters growth and invites new because of low regulations. And we do this while living in state whose people know they have a healthy, safe environment free to raise their families in a manner that allows their children to thrive.”

Another appointee of Governor Kristi Noem is State Senator Jessica Castleberry, representing District 35, who boasted one of the largest margins of victory in the primary election, winning 72% to 28% over her opponent.

Jessica, a Rapid City businesswoman has had little time to rest since she was appointed on December 31st of last year, started her first session in January, and had to immediately begin her campaign for office in March.

“I ran to retain the District 35 Senate seat because I knew having someone with legislative experience, business acumen, and a service focused approach to public office was going to be imperative for South Dakota moving forward. I was grateful for the opportunity to run in the primary because it gave me the opportunity to introduce myself to the voters.”

Now that the primary is over, Jessica is looking forward to running in the Fall.

“Campaigning in the Fall as the Republican candidate I’m looking forward to addressing several important issues such as the economy, workforce development, future stability for our state, protecting the Constitutional rights of all citizens and setting our focus back on what will benefit all



Rep. Rhonda Milstead

South Dakotans instead of frivolous, unconstitutional bills. We have a lot of challenges this coming legislative session, and we must have legislators who are focused on the people.”

Another candidate who came out strongly from the June 2 Primary was Certified Nurse Practitioner Erin Tobin of Winner, who challenged House Majority Leader Lee Qualm for the District 21 State Senate Seat. When the dust settled on election day, Tobin was the clear victor on a vote of 61% to 39%.

As a candidate, Tobin was hard-working and fearless in her decision to make the leap to run for elected office.

When asked why she decided to run, Tobin noted that she has “an ambitious spirit and personally would rather speak up for right and wrong then go home at the end of the day without

Erin
TOBIN
FOR DISTRICT 21 STATE SENATE

**A FRESH APPROACH
FOR SOUTH DAKOTA**
JUNE 2ND – REPUBLICAN PRIMARY



Becky Drury

saying anything. The people that know me well were not surprised at this decision at all. Fear of failure has never been a hurdle for me, as I know if you don't try something – you fail 100% of the time."

Tobin also recognized that good political campaigns are a group effort.

"The primary election experience was a ride – comparable to a roller-coaster. The first two weeks I had pages of notes from all my experienced political friends and friends of friends. I had to condense this into an organized plan and adjust it to Coronavirus. The best thing that I did for this campaign, was to make a daily check-list and daily goal for phone calls. Anyone who offered to help, I enlisted them. I also had people that I could call, who believed in me, that would motivate me on the long, hard days. Travis, my husband, wanted to help and I asked him to make phone calls to raise money. He took this job very seriously and this



Mary Fitzgerald

enabled me to use any way possible to deliver my message to District 21."

Mary Fitzgerald of District 31 is a long-time volunteer for the GOP, and the spouse of a long-time Republican officeholder, but 2020 marks her first time as a candidate in her own right as she successfully made it through the State House primary election contest, winning one of two seats to move forward in the election from a field of five.

Mary noted "I have been involved in many different campaigns over the years and what made this campaign unique was this time I was the candidate. This primary race was also unique due to COVID-19. Traditional campaigning was out, and I quickly learned and developed new methods in order to reach the voters of Lawrence County. The primary race was fun, I worked hard and look forward to the fall election."



Trish Ladner

"My goals are to be an effective legislator, learn from mentors and make Lawrence County, my children and grandchildren proud of me. I intend on meeting with constituents to learn what they feel is important for me to know. I have no political agenda, nor any financial interests to promote. I am dedicated to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of all South Dakotans."

Becky Drury might be a first-time Legislative candidate, but her prior experience includes running for office in a competitive environment in South Dakota's second largest community where she has been serving on the Rapid City Common Council since 2017.

Drury explains "I love serving the people of Rapid City on the Council and always feel that I truly represent my neighbors. The hardest votes are now with the COVID 19 virus. As we try to balance business interests with not



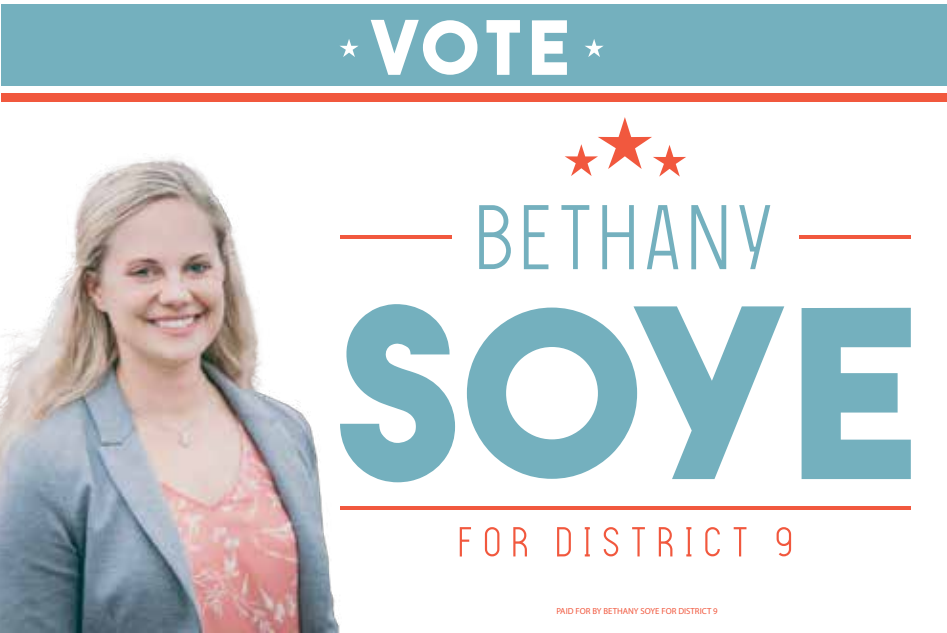
Jessica Bahmuller

overwhelming our medical system the votes become more and more difficult. My focus now is how we come out of this pandemic."

The COVID-19 Pandemic has the attention of many of the candidates, and will dominate the campaign this fall as it did during the primary.

District 30 State House candidate Trish Ladner is eager to "tackle the challenges we will face as a state as we emerge from the pandemic and our challenging times."

Having ran in the primary, she noted "Campaigning was a unique experience with the COVID-19 social distancing guidelines in place. Early on we realized that the door-to-door canvassing and the meet-and-greet opportunities weren't available, so we decided to conduct a digital campaign across all social media platforms and the results were impressive."



Bethany Soye, who as mentioned had to wait until Wednesday evening for her results, also found campaigning in the pandemic as a complicated experience.

"Conducting my first campaign during the virus was quite challenging. I had to find creative ways to reach voters, especially absentee voters."

However, after this victory, Soye is undaunted, and ready for the challenge of the fall election as one of the few who face an entrenched Democrat opponent.

"While the general election is going to be challenging, I am excited for the opportunity that our party has to pick up a current Democrat-held seat. There will be high voter turnout due to the presidential election and I am



Sen. Helene Duhamel

committed to being the hardest working campaigner in the race," Soye said.

Jessica Bahmuller is a name that might not be instantly recognizable.. until you realize that she's been around Republican politics for many years, and is following in the footsteps of her father, State Representative Arch Beal.

"Running for office has always been on my mind. The 1st time I was able to vote I voted for my mother for school board and I watched my dad serve District 12 for 3 terms. I sat down with my children and husband and wrote a pros and cons list at the end of the list I asked them what they thought. When an 11 year old says "Mom if this is your goal why wouldn't you do it?" I knew I had to try. "

Bahmuller notes that "Helping someone campaign is one thing but when your name is on the ballot it is a whole new ball game."

Also facing her first election this November is State Senator Helene Duhamel, who Governor Kristi Noem had appointed this past December. Duhamel noted that despite a lifetime of involvement in her community, "serving in the legislature was a whole new level of service. A 35+ year career in journalism prepared me well for the ability to really dig into and listen to all sides of an issue."

Campaigning is also a new experience for her, as she notes "I've never run for office, so I am both excited and nervous about campaigning leading up to the November election. I love talking to people, so that's the easy part!"

The group of incoming legislators is already getting the attention of those in leadership, as Senate Majority Leader Kris Langer points out that she "was incredibly impressed with these women and the way they contributed so much from the very beginning. Insightful, professional, and ready to tackle all that is required of a lawmaker."

"The eagerness to learn and the confidence to execute their abilities was evident from the start," Langer said.

Governor Kristi Noem also had strong encouragement for this group of candidates, and noted, "I'm excited that we have such a highly qualified class of female freshmen candidates. It's a big decision to choose to step up into public service, and I wish all of them the very best in the months ahead."

While this accomplished group makes up nearly 50% of the freshman class of new legislative candidates, PUC Commissioner Kristie Fiegen - a former Republican legislator herself - points out that inclusivity is not just a good idea, but good public policy.

"Diversity in policy-making brings multiple perspectives to the process. Numerous viewpoints and backgrounds ensure each citizen of our state has a voice at the table," Fiegen said.

"Whether the diversity is gender, education, racial, vocation, location, age group, or party, we are able to bring together unique skills and a broad knowledge base to be able to work together for South Dakotans' best interests."

A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR KRISTI NOEM



Hello,

I know everyone is eager to get back to their daily routines and dive back into what they love doing. But it is important to remember that some people will never get to return to normal. I lost my Dad at a very young age. That experience greatly changed the path that I was on. Similarly, this COVID-19 pandemic has greatly changed the path so many South Dakotans were on as well. To everyone who has lost a loved-one to this pandemic, Bryon and I are keeping you in our prayers.

Since day one, I have pledged to let the science, the facts, and the data on the ground in South Dakota drive all my decision-making. I have been very clear that our people need to take their responsibility for health and safety seriously – that they should be practicing good public hygiene and social distanc-

ing. The people of South Dakota have done a tremendous job.

In South Dakota, an unprecedented situation like this revealed publicly a principle we hold dear: It's our people that make us great, not our government.

Our state motto is a beautiful one: "Under God, the people rule." That is what our system of government is all about – the people of South Dakota are the source of the power and legitimacy of our government – not the media, not politicians and not political parties. That is a healthy perspective for any elected official to keep in mind.

Our "Back to Normal" plan is not a reopening plan – South Dakota never closed. Our plan does not include new government programs, more red tape, proscriptive phases, tight controls, or anything of the like.

Rather, our plan continues to put the power of decision-making into the hands of the people – where it belongs. I trust South Dakotans to continue to exercise common sense, reasonableness, innovation, and a commitment to themselves, their families, and – in turn – their communities.

God bless!
Governor Kristi Noem



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Government Relations
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South Dakotans: Thank you.

We are not out of the woods yet. This is a marathon, not a sprint. But it is because of your smart decision-making that we are in the position that we're in today.

Thank you for trusting me and my team.


Governor Kristi Noem

PAID FOR BY KRISTI FOR GOVERNOR

Thank you South Dakota Republicans for your support.

By U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds

Thank you South Dakota Republicans for your support. It has been an honor to serve as your United States Senator and I am blessed to be your candidate for the General Election.

Working together, we have delivered results over the past several years...

- We passed tax reform to simplify the tax code and to let hard-working tax payers keep more of their money,
- We rolled back job-killing regulatory burdens and have streamlined government resulting in over \$33 billion in savings...last year we eliminated 12 regulations for every new one,
- We have now confirmed 193 federal judges, including two new Supreme Court Justices, who will respect and follow the

- Constitution rather than their own policy preferences.
- We have rebuilt our military and are making it even stronger,
 - The recent announcement that the new B-21 Bombers will be stationed at Ellsworth Air Force base will keep our nation safe, while having a profound impact on South Dakota's economy for decades,
 - We have repealed Obamacare's individual mandate,
 - We passed the Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018 to increase access to addiction treatment,
 - We passed the Patient Right to Know Drug Prices Act so patients have access to drug prices,
 - We passed a Farm Bill that provides certainty and stability for farmers and ranchers,
 - With GOP senate support of

- pro-growth policies, the economy has been booming with historic growth since President Trump has been in office. COVID has been a bump in the road, but we are back on the road to recovery and the economy is coming back strong!
- And so much more...

We have accomplished many great things over the past several years, however, our work is far from done. We must secure our borders, negotiate better trade deals that are fair for the American people, and continue to expand options for quality and affordable healthcare.

We must continue to make sure our economy comes back stronger than ever and we must work to bring our country back together.

starts by re-electing President Trump and maintaining our majority in the United States Senate. We must not take anything for granted this election because the stakes are too high and the future of our great nation is in jeopardy.

Again, thank you for your past support and I will work hard to continue earning your trust.

- Mike Rounds



It

ROUNDS

FOR SENATE

THANK YOU

Working together, we will Make America Great Again!

Paid for by Rounds for Senate

JASON RAVNSBORG

ATTORNEY GENERAL

WWW.JASONFORSOUTHDAKOTA.COM

To the brave health care workers and members of law enforcement selflessly serving the public during these challenging times; thank you for your service and your efforts on behalf of all South Dakotans.

- Attorney General Jason Ravensborg

Paid for by Jason for South Dakota.

We Hear You, and We Are Listening, by Sen. John Thune



On May 25, 2020, George Floyd died at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer. This senseless death left Americans reeling, most of all because there have been too many George Floyds. And Breonna Taylors. And Ahmaud Arberys. As a nation, we need to work to ensure that what happened that day in Minneapolis never happens again, and that the perpetrators of crimes like this one are held accountable and brought to justice. We also need to acknowledge how deeply many of our fellow citizens are suffering in the wake of George Floyd's senseless death.

A lot of our fellow Americans are afraid right now, shaken by another death and worried that that could easily have been their son, or husband, or brother. Too many Americans feel unsafe in their own communities. We need to listen to them with humility. To listen to those whose experience of America has often been very different from many of ours.

In the wake of George Floyd's death, Americans took to the streets in cities across the country to express their outrage. They joined a powerful tradition, and exercised a cherished right. Peaceful protest is an American institution, and, as the Civil Rights movement demonstrated, a powerful agent for change. And these protests aren't relegated to big cities. We're seeing them in towns across South Dakota and in many other places in the United States.

Unfortunately, though, there has also been counterproductive and unnecessary violence. Arson, looting, and destruction of property have happened in cities around the country, and communities have

suffered damage that will be felt for years. Community spaces and community buildings have been damaged. Local businesses have seen their shops defaced and their aisles ransacked, and innocent bystanders have been injured. This is not a solution to the problems highlighted by George Floyd's death, and this violence needs to end. Putting other lives in danger cannot be an acceptable response to an unjust death.

Around our country, our law enforcement officers have been called out to respond to these riots. It was a police officer who caused George Floyd's death, and around our country, other police officers are sickened by that officer's actions and the tragic result. Most of our nation's police are like Houston's police chief, who went out and marched in solidarity with protesters. Or like Norfolk, Virginia's police chief, who did the same. Or like the police officers in Camden, New Jersey, who joined locals to march, led by their police chief.

There are certainly exceptions – sadly, too many exceptions – but the vast majority of our nation's

police officers are men and women of character who care deeply about protecting everyone in their communities and who strive to do their jobs with justice and integrity.

The promise of the Declaration – that all men are created equal – was denied to many. Even in our own day, with both slavery and segregation now mercifully in our past, the effects of these great national sins still make themselves felt. We must rededicate ourselves to ensuring that the promise of liberty and justice for all is realized for every American. It will take work, but I have faith in our country and in my fellow Americans, and I believe that we can get there.

My prayers today are with George Floyd's family and with all those who are suffering because of his unjust death. "And what does the Lord require of you?" the book of Micah asks. "To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." May we all seek justice and mercy and walk humbly in the days that are ahead.

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A Message from South Dakota Republican Party Chairman Dan Lederman:



Have you checked under your hood lately? Cars and motorcycles are great things, but if you don't perform maintenance, there's a lot of things that can go wrong.

The Republican Party is like that as well. During the primary election, it might seem like the GOP is just sailing along without a worry - but we've been hard at work to ensure that our state and national conventions go off without a hitch. The Coronavirus pandemic is a complication that has affected many things about campaigns, as you'll read elsewhere in this newsletter. And the SDGOP is no different.

While we would like nothing more than to gather in a large group to tell the world how strong we are, we've been closely monitoring the situation, and actively working to make sure we can hold a convention, hence the SDGOP going virtual in our convention for the first time ever. We've been addressing bylaws, and changing rules so we can move forward with the business if nominating candidates - while still ensuring YOUR health and safety.

South Dakota Republicans have tragically lost one of our leaders, State Representative Bob Glanzer, to this pandemic. It is not a hoax or hysteria. It affects people differently, and it is a very real thing. A virtual convention is a necessary alternative but can still be entertaining. Being in the same room is not worth anyone's life.

We're ready to move forward with making sure the GOP is strong, and ready to lead, and we need you to take part. I urge you to register to participate in the convention at our special web address at SouthDakotaGOPConvention.com

Thank you for all your work, and I look forward to seeing you on June 20th - Virtually!

Dan

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WHY I JOINED THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BY REV. WILLIAM DALDOUM

May 14th, 2020

Rev. William Agamiri Daldoum
1404 E. Clark Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105



Why I join the Republican Party:

As a naturalized US Citizen originally from South Sudan, I take pride of being an American, and am thankful for the privilege and opportunity to exercise my God's given rights for the first time. My admiration for the Republican Party dated back to mid-eighties when I was a high school student in Sudan, watching on TV one of the greatest United States Presidents whom I admired the most, the former president Ronald Reagan in a presidential debate, I remembered him, expressing his faith in God and optimism for greater future to the American people and the world.

It was during his time in office, the world witnessed the end of Communism, and his famous speech to the then President of Russia, saying "Mr. Gorbachov, tear this wall down". President Reagan made a convincing argument why socialism must be rejected because it promises people welfare which results in poverty and human degradation, and it also hinders productivity and human creativity, making people poor and dependent upon government handouts.

After becoming a US Citizen in 1999, I registered as Democrat, but switched party shortly, after realizing that, my core values (Faith, Family, respect for human life, decency, and hard work) plus what this great country is standing for (opportunity and freedom of choice for every individual) are not well represented by the Democratic Party.

Upon those values and political principles mentioned above, I rested my conviction and pledged my loyalty and support to the Republican Party for what it stand, when it comes to American greatness. And as a proud Republican, I am not ashamed to share my faith in God and encourage others to join me in this endeavor for a greater and a brighter future for our great Republican Party.

Together let's make America great and shine again. Victory is certain!

William A. Daldoum.

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A History of South Dakota Republican State Conventions

1889 – September 4, Huron
1890 – August 27, Mitchell
1892 – July 27, Madison
1894 – August 25, Yankton
1896 – July 8-9, Aberdeen
1898 – August 25, Mitchell
1900 – May 23, Sioux Falls
1902 – June 4, Sioux Falls
1904 – May 4, Sioux Falls
1906 – June 6, Sioux Falls
1908 – July 18, Mitchell
1910 – July 5, Sioux Falls
1912 - July 2, Huron
1914 - January 5, Pierre
1916- July 5, Huron
1918- July 2-3, Sioux Falls
1920 – August 9, Huron
1922 - no date or location
1924 – July 18, Huron
1926 - no date or location
1928 – August 17, Huron
1930 - May 20, Pierre
1932 - May 24, Pierre
1934 – May 29, Pierre
1936 - June 2, Pierre
1938 – June 27, Pierre
1940 – July 22, Pierre
1942 – June 6 – Pierre
1944 – May 29, Watertown
1946 – July 8, Pierre
1948 – July 12, Pierre
1950 – July 17, Pierre
1952 – July 21, Pierre
1954 – July 26, Pierre
1956 – July 16, Pierre
1958 – July 14, Pierre
1960 – August 1, Pierre
1962 – July 15-16, Pierre
1964 – August 1, Pierre
1966 – July 30, Pierre
1968 – July 15, Pierre
1970 – July 13, Pierre
1972 - June 26, Pierre
1974 - July 13, Rapid City
1976 - July 10, Pierre
1978 - June 22, Sioux Falls
1980 – June 27-28, Aberdeen
1982 – June 24-26, Yankton
1984 – June 28, Rapid City
1986 – June 28, Mitchell
1988 – June 22, Watertown
1990 – June 29, Sioux Falls
1992 – June 26, Spearfish
1994 – June 24, Pierre
1996 – June 27-29, Aberdeen
1998 – June 25, Pierre
2000 – June 22-24, Spearfish
2002 – June 21-22, Sioux Falls
2004 – June 24-26, Mitchell
2006 – June 22-24, Watertown
2008 – June 19-21, Oacoma
2010 – June 25-26, Huron
2012 – June 21-24, Sioux Falls
2014 – June 19-21, Rapid City
2016 – June 24-25, Aberdeen
2018 - June 21-23, Pierre
2020 - June 19-20
SDGOP Virtual Convention!

Special thanks to Jon Lauck!



GOP Convention to be held virtually, continued from page 1

form for its virtual convention after clear demonstrations that Voatz could handle the dynamic nature of the convention and the potential for runoff rounds of voting. The platform will allow delegates to vote securely, privately, and electronically through their mobile phones. Voatz helps to make the voting process safe and verifiable for delegates and candidates.

Chairman Dan Lederman noted that State Republican party bylaws were recently changed and filed with the Secretary of State to allow for the convention to take place in this manner for 2020. “With the unique situation this year with the coronavirus, we will be operating with a skeleton crew at our headquarters in Sioux Falls (212 S Main) and at a satellite location in Rapid City for people to gather if they choose. Otherwise, all voting will be electronic.”

Lederman noted that the most significant changes will be in pre-filing party resolutions before June 5th, and providing written notice of intent for candidate nominations for Public Utilities Commission, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman by June 15th so the voting system may be set up.

The Republican Party will be posting more information with regards to the convention on it’s website at SouthDakotaGop.com, but Lederman wished to communicate that “the party is confident that the convention can happen electronically,” and that “the rules of order to conduct the convention in this manner are temporary.”



CAST YOUR BALLOT AT THE 2020 REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION FOR:

RIED HOLIEN FOR NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN &

SANDYE KADING FOR NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN

Paid for by Ried Holien and Sandye Kading

South Dakota GOP Party Leadership Directory

Chairman:

Dan Lederman – dan@southdakotagop.com

Vice Chair:

Linda Rausch - lgrausch@aol.com

National Committeeman:

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National Committeewoman:

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Secretary:

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CONVENTION INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES:

2020 CONVENTION OFFICERS

CONVENTION CHAIR
TBD

CONVENTION PARLIMENTARIAN
JUSTIN SMITH

CONVENTION SECRETARY
MARILYN OAKES

2020 CONVENTION COMMITTEES

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
ED RANDAZZO, CHAIR

RULES COMMITTEE
JULIE JOHNSON, CHAIR

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
DAVID WHEELER, CHAIR

SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE
SEN. JOHN WIIK, CHAIR

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your e-mail and cell phone information for voting privileges, and
to receive important convention information electronically.

2020 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH

8AM-10AM:
**REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALING
ASSISTANCE OPEN**

10AM:
OPENING AND CONVENTION BUSINESS

11AM – 1PM:
**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS,
CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS**

1PM-3PM:
VOTING OPEN

4PM:
**RESULTS,
ANNOUNCEMENT OF NATIONAL DELEGATES**



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