September 2020 Volume 1, Issue 3

Blue Note 2.0

We have our Democratic Ticket for 2020!



I am excited, are you? I am ALL IN, are you? The Democratic National Convention was held Monday August 17th through Thursday August 20th. During that time, we saw the power and diversity of the Democratic Party in the United States. During that time, we saw hope, promise and compassion, unlike we have ever seen before.

We saw our very own Congressman Jim Clyburn deliver passionate remarks from Charleston, SC. We saw State Senator Marlon Kimpson as a rising star of the Democratic Party. And we saw future U. S. Senator Jaime Harrison cast the South Carolina vote from Orangeburg, SC.

Senator Kamala Harris officially accepted the nomination for Vice President and Former Vice President Joe Biden officially accepted the nomination for President. These are exciting times for all of us and I know that in November we can WIN!

After watching the Democratic National Convention and participating as a delegate, I felt so pumped up for our November 2020 Election. I am ALL IN, are you?

Jeni Atchley, DCDP 1st Vice Chair



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Upcoming Events

- DCDP Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom and phone—2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM
 - ⇒Tues. Sept 8th
 - ⇒Tues. Oct 13th
 - ⇒Tues. Nov 10th
 - \Rightarrow Tues. Dec 8th
- Election Day—Tuesday, November 3, 2020

YOUR GUIDE TO DORCHESTER COUNTY 2020 DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

Register to Vote: <u>https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/ovr/start.aspx</u>

Last day to register/update information: Oct. 3, 2020, Election Day is Nov. 3, 2020

Joseph Biden President Intersted Int	Kamala Harris Vice President	Jaime Harrison US Senate	Joe Cunningham US House - District 01	James E. Clyburn US House - District 06
John Lowe State Senate - District 38 Image: State Senate - District 38 Image: State Senate - District 38	Vernon StephensState Senate - District 39Image: State Se	Sam Skardon State Senate - District 41	Marlon Kimpson State Senate - District 42	Debbie Bryant State Senate - District 44
Patricia Cannon State House - District 94	Ronee DeCanio State House - District 97	Joe H. Jefferson State House - District 102	Deon Tedder State House - District 109	Marvin Pendarvis State House - District 113
Ed Sutton State House - District 114 Eventson State House - District 114 Eventson State House - District 114	David M. Pascoe Solicitor Circuit 1	Trumaine Moorer County Sheriff	www.dorchesterdemoc rats.com/	School Board Candidates run as non-partisan. We will do our best to promote school board can- didates that wish to be promoted by DCDP.

DCDP Chair's Corner By Tim Lewis

Greetings,

I'm excited!

A few day ago, a friend emailed me a poem he wrote, and it completely changed what I was going to write in this article. For me, his poem made the point that, as Democrats, we are all in this together to let our individual and collective lights shine on the democratic ideals we hold dearly. With permission, here is his poem.

Let's keep our hearts lit

"We coexist with people illuminating or obscuring our hearts. When we feel ours dimming down while communicating with anyone — let's make a contract with that person to engage in conversations that reignite our hearts as desired by both. We will feel contentment with lasting and healthy relationships. Let's keep our hearts lit." By Ian P. Ahearn

The Dorchester County Democratic Party (DCDP) light is shining bright. As Democrats have had a very successful national convention where we chose Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as our President and Vice-President candidates for then 2020 General Election. They truly have the leadership ability, experience, and compassion to heal our land and *Build Back Better*.

I'm even more excited to shine a light on the great and wonderful things your county party is doing to turn Dorchester County Blue in November. The DCDP officers, committee chairs, and a host of volunteers have stepped up to the plate and hit grand slam home runs. Here are just a few of their many accomplishments and projects that are underway.

- Increase volunteers largely due to the DorchesterDemocrats.com website
- Increase fundraising via Act Blue
- Increase the number of active precincts
- Conduct a very successful Adopt-a-Highway road-side cleanup on the DCDP section of Dorchester Road
- Inaugurate the Blue Wave Express a volunteer project to facilitate voter registration, absentee and early voting, delivery of candidate yard signs and literature, and provide rides to the polls
- Schedule Facebook group watch parties for the presidential debates
- Participate in phone and text banking for our congressional and state-wide candidates
- Produce candidate video chats with local candidates
- Energize our presence on Instagram to engage young voters
- Produce the Faith in Action Virtual Town Hall with Congressmen Jim Clyburn and Joe Cunningham.
- And much more

In the face of the times which we live because of COVID-19, personal tragedies and heartbreaks, societal injustices and inequities, your DCDP has been working hard, with dedication, passion, and compassion to turn Dorchester County blue in November. And with a little grace, we are committed to serving the Party.

Call to action — We need you! With just a few weeks until the 2020 General Election, we continue to need YOU to volunteer at <u>DorchesterDemocrats.com</u>. We also ask you to donate to DCDP at the same website. With having to cancel or scale back our traditional fundraising events, your donation to the DCDP is needed now more than ever. We promise to be good stewards of your gifts of time, money, and confidence

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (843) 560-9210, <u>DorchesterDemocrats.com</u>, or via email at <u>dordems@gmail.com</u>.

Take care and stay safe and healthy, Tim Lewis, Chair, Dorchester County Democratic Party

College in time of COVID, by Faith Shannon

What a time to be alive. The COVID-19 pandemic is nothing short of shocking, but for us college students, we had to deal with what life had thrown at us. I can recall the moments leading up to my school announcing its shut down. I attend college in Atlanta, Georgia and I remember when I heard about the first couple of cases that popped up in the county where I was. We were concerned, but not expecting what was to come. My friends and I discussed if we thought they were going to start cancelling plans. Since Georgia was not a hot spot at the time, we felt that we could carry on with life as we knew it.

Now we were in March on Spring Break. People were traveling, including me on a trip with my school's Glee Club, and wondering if we would be next on the list of schools telling their students not to return. Midway into Spring Break, my school announced that they were going to shut down. We were crushed, especially the Class of 2020. There were tears. Traveling came to a halt. Study abroad? Ruined. Looking forward to that internship? Ruined. What were we going to do? My school extended Spring Break for a week only for students completely clear out the dorms, go home, and resume school virtually. For some comedic relief in such a dark time, we like to call it Zoom University.

As a member of the Class of 2021, we thought sure that the pandemic would be over in time to return to school in the Fall. My school chose to continue classes virtually for the Fall 2020 semester. Some schools are letting their students return, some are not. It does raise concern for the people in my generation who genuinely care about stopping this virus. There are still so many questions. When will C'2020 have their graduation? When are we going back to campus? How long will this last? For now, all we can do is wait (just like we've been waiting) and follow directions to help stop the spread.

If someone told me years ago that this is what my college experience would look like, I'd have a hard time believing it. But this is what it has come to. Life, let alone college, will never be the same. However, it's important to constantly look at the brighter side of the situation, and remain hopeful.



#MiVozTuVoz



Nuestra comunidad es una comunidad rica en tradición, cultura y muy orgulloso de nuestra historia. Venimos de todas partes del mundo a un lugar, un país, un estado, una ciudad. Venimos aquí por razones diferentes, pero todos venimos juntos como una comunidad. Documentados, ciudadanos, indocumentados, y todas clases de estados legal, pero todos estamos aquí por el mismo sueño – ver nuestros hijos tener una mejor vida, trabajar, pagar nuestras cuentas y vivir una vida cómoda y en paz.

Todas estas cosas vienen con una responsabilidad cívica. La palabra cívica significa que pertenece a ciudadanos, una palabra que tiene raíces en el idioma del latín y en las tradiciones de los Romanos. Nosotros que vivimos en un lugar, formando una comunidad, tenemos los mismos deseos, las mismas preocupaciones, pero a veces vemos diferentes caminos a tratar con esos sueños y preocupaciones. Pero divididos no podemos hacer nada. Para que haiga representación de verdad hay que haber representación para la comunidad entera.

¿Cómo, entonces, podemos tender esa representación para toda la comunidad cuando solo un parte puede votar? Hay dos maneras. Primeramente, el censo es una manera que TODOS podemos contar y todos tenemos una voz. Cuando todos contamos todos ganamos: más representación, más contribución financiar federal y del estado en todas las cosas que mas nos importa en nuestra comunidad, como escuelas, hospitales, carreteras, construcción y una variedad de otras cosas.

La otra manera que todos podemos participar es mediante el voto. El voto es nuestra voz. Lamentablemente muchos en nuestra comunidad no tienen una voz porque no son ciudadanos. Es importante entender que aquellas personas que no respetan las prioridades de la comunidad hispana nos quieren mantener divididos en dos facciones, uno indocumentado y otro de los ciudadanos. Esto se complica con los políticos que ignoran por completo a las personas en nuestra comunidad que no pueden votar.

Aquí esta la cosa: Cada persona que no puede votar por no ser ciudadano o por ser indocumentado por conoce por lo menos a una persona, sea amigo o familiar, que si puede votar. Lamentablemente, muchos de los que SI tienen voz y SI pueden votar no lo hacen. No votan por muchas razones: no creen en el sistema, no les importa, no les gustan las políticas, no ven la necesidad, tienen otras prioridades y a veces simplemente por la vagancia y la falta de estar dispuesto a sacrificar sus esfuerzos, su tiempo o su comodidad.

Adopte un votante. ¡Si no tienes una voz...ELLOS PUEDEN SER TU VOZ! Diles a ellos, yo no puedo votar. #migente están siendo abusado, están siendo encarcelados, estand siendo hasta matado, y yo no puedo votar contra esta administración que ha declarado guerra contra #migente. Yo no tengo voz...TU puedes ser mi voz. ¡Ve! ¡Vota!

Todos somos parte de una comunidad. Todos podemos hacer nuestra parte. Todos tenemos que hacer nuestra parte. Si piensas que los últimos 4 años han sido malo...espere...que los próximos cuatro serán peor si esta administración gana la elección en Noviembre.

Carpe Diem, Julio Caceres DCDP Voter Protection Unit Liaison SCDP Hispanic Caucus, Co Chair https://www.dorchesterdemocrats.com/

English translation available upon request.



Absentee Voting Options for the 2020 Election

By Aniya Cohen, Communications Committee Vice Chair



Who Can Vote Absentee?

You must be 65 or older or meet one of the requirements, **unless** the state legislature approves universal absentee voting when they resume session in September, because of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

For a list of situations that qualify, go to https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting

Steps to Vote Absentee by Mail

- 1. Apply now for a ballot at the Dorchester County Voter Registration office at 201 Johnston St, in St. George, or request an application for a ballot online at <u>www.scvotes.gov</u>, or call the Election Commission at 843-563-0132. Be sure to sign it with your name as it appears on your voter registration card. If you can't find your card, go to scvotes.gov and look it up by your county and name. **Warning:** applying late puts your ballot at risk of not being returned by the deadline. Apply early and return your ballot asap.
- 2. Ballots will be mailed out beginning in October.
- 3. Fill it out and return it by mail asap, or take it to your polling place during Absentee in person voting, or on Election Day. If a drop box is available at your polling location, you can also deposit it there. (See more about drop boxes below.)
- 4. Mailed ballots must be received at the county voter registration office by 7 PM on Election Day, November 2, 2020. Because of slower than normal mail delivery in some areas, do not delay. The earlier you return it, the better, if by mail.

If you prefer another option besides the United States Postal Service

- 1. You may give your completed ballot to a poll worker at your polling place during Absentee in person voting, or on Election Day.
- 2. If a drop box is available at your polling location, you can also deposit it there.
- 3. The Blue Wave Express is a service of the Dorchester Democratic Party's Voter Outreach, that will securely deliver your ballots to the Board of Elections, in St. George, by Election Day. Look for more on this option in the October Blue Note 2.0.
- 4. If you change your mind and decide to vote Absentee in person rather than by mail, show up during Absentee in person voting hours at the designated location for your precinct. Be sure to have your voter registration card and/or photo ID.

WARNING: Applying late puts your ballot at risk of not being returned by the deadline.

<u>**Curbside voting:**</u> Available to registered voters who are 65 or older, or who are disabled. Curbside voting is marked at each polling location. You stay in your vehicle and the poll worker comes to you. You will need your photo ID.

Ballot Drop Boxes: Per conversation with Commissioner of Elections, Todd J. Billman, the only Ballot Drop Box right now is at the Waggoner Building, 201 Johnston St., St. George, SC 29477. The Election Commission has ordered more but they might not be delivered in time for the other two Absentee in Person voting locations in Dorchester County.

Absentee In Person Voting

If you qualify for absentee voting, you may do so in person rather than by mail. This is my preference because it's efficient and secure, the lines will be much shorter and the voting period is spread out over several days to weeks. I see this as a better option also because 50,000 Trump recruits have signed up to "protect" polling places on Election Day.

<u>St. George:</u> Weekdays, from October 2nd through November 2nd, 8:30 AM to 5 PM Board of Elections, 201 Johnston St., St. George, SC 29477

<u>Summerville:</u> Weekdays from October 19th through October 30th, 8:30 AM to 5 PM Rollins Edwards Community Center, 301 North Hickory Street, Summerville, SC 29483

North Charleston: Weekdays from October 19 through 30, 8:30 AM to 5 PM Westcott Community Center, 9006 Dorchester Rd., North Charleston, SC 29420

Phone Number: 843-563-0132 <u>https://www.scvotes.gov/absentee-voting</u> For last minute updates go to <u>https://www.dorchestercountysc.gov/home</u> Email <u>vote@dorchestercountysc.gov</u>

Photo ID Requirements

At the polling place, you will be asked to provide one of the following types of photo identification:

~ S.C. Driver's License

- Includes standard license and REAL ID

~ S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles ID Card

- Includes standard ID card, REAL ID, and SC Concealed Weapons Permit

~ S.C. Voter Registration Card with Photo

~ Federal Military ID

- Includes all Department of Defense Photo ID's and Veterans Affairs Benefits Card

 \sim U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport ID Card

If You Don't Have Photo ID, Free Photo IDs are available at the DMV and your county voter registration and elections office.

If you can't get a Photo ID, bring your non-photo voter registration card with you to the polls. You will be allowed to vote after signing an affidavit stating you have a reasonable impediment to obtaining Photo ID. The reasonable impediment could be a religious objection to being photographed, a disability or illness, your work schedule, lack of transportation or any other obstacle you find reasonable.

If you forget to bring your Photo ID with you to vote, you may vote using a provisional ballot that will not count unless you show Photo ID to the county voter registration and elections office prior to certification of the election.





<u>Poll Managers Needed for</u> November 3rd General Election

State and county election officials know many of our long-serving and dedicated poll managers, particularly those that fall into high-risk categories, have decided that working the polls in November is not worth the associated risk to their health. The SEC understands and respects

each and every poll manager's decision on whether to serve in this challenging time. We thank you for your service. Our sincere hope is that as our situation improves, you can continue serving in the future.

If you are willing and able to serve, South Carolina needs you. The fact is we must have poll managers to have elections. Unless new poll managers step up to serve, we expect counties will have to close and consolidate polling places, which can cause large crowds and longer lines for voters.

The SEC and county election officials are taking steps to help make polling places as safe as possible for voters and poll managers, including: providing masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, and disposable cotton swabs for making touchscreen selections. We will also provide online training when possible and small-group, socially-distanced trainings when necessary.

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm for the monthly DCDP Executive Committee Meeting Register via the website

https://www.dorchesterdemocrats.com/

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