

THE ALDAN CHRONICLE

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WHY I'M RUNNING BY MIKE ZABEL

My son John is one month away from turning three years old. He counts on me. When he sees something new, he wants me to explain what it is. When a toy breaks, he asks me to fix it. When he gets hurt, he asks me to kiss his boo-boo to make it feel better. He trusts that his father will take care of him and keep his world in order. It's the greatest responsibility of my life.

The world we know in 2018 can sometimes seem like a pretty dark place. The President's divisive policies and rhetoric have taken a serious toll on the fabric of our country. Republicans in Washington D.C. and Harrisburg have shown, time and time again, that they're unwilling to stand up for ordinary Americans. Enough already.

I think someday John or his baby sister Lila will ask

me about this time in our nation's history. And they'll ask me, "Dad, what did you do about it?" I want to have a good answer to that question. So I'm running to be your state rep.

I'm running because Harrisburg Republicans stopped taking care of working families a long time ago. Our property taxes go up, and our schools still don't have enough funding.

Meanwhile, gas companies get richer and richer off of our natural resources without paying their own fair share in taxes.

I'm running because every Pennsylvanian should be guaranteed equal pay for equal



Mike Zabel, candidate for PA 163rd State House District.

work, and the right to belong to a strong union, and protection from discrimination based on who they are or whom they love.

I'm running because we need better gun control - not just a background check, but things like a ban on assault weapons and high capacity magazines.

I could go on, but this newsletter is only so big. You can learn more about me on the issues at: www.votezabel.com.

My mission this year will be to earn your trust and your vote. I'm running because I want you to be proud of your state representative. And I want my kids to be proud of their dad.

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ALDAN PRIMARY VOTING 101

When?

The primary election is fast approaching on **Tuesday, May 15, 2018**. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are in line by 8:00 p.m., you will be allowed to vote.

Where?

Everyone in Aldan votes at the Aldan Elementary School at 1 North Woodlawn Ave.

Who?

Only registered Democrats and Republicans are eligible to vote in their respective primaries. Those who

have registered as a member of a third party or with no party affiliation will have to wait until the general election in November to cast a ballot.

You can check your voter registration status or register to vote in the general election at votespa.com.

Absentee Voting

If you will be unable to vote in person on May 15 because you are out of town due to work or vacation, if you work long days, or if you unable to make it to your polling place due to illness or physical disability, you can vote by absentee ballot. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is **May 8, 2018**. The

completed absentee ballot must be **received** by the Board of Elections by **May 11, 2018**. Please note that both of these deadlines are the date the Board of Elections must receive your paperwork, NOT the date that you postmark them. Absentee ballot request forms can be found online at votespa.com.

Voter ID

If this will be your first time voting at a new precinct, you will be asked to show ID when you sign in to vote. Otherwise, if you have previously voted at your precinct, you do not need to show ID. A list of acceptable forms of ID can be found at votespa.com

CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

Back when Aldan's congressional district looked like Goofy kicking Daffy Duck, it was known as a political firewall, drawn in 2011 to keep the district in Republican hands. The crazy district outline instantly became a rallying cry for anti-gerrymandering groups across the state. Thanks to these groups' efforts, the political firewall has been destroyed, returning elections to the voters.

How PA-07, Aldan's old district, became PA-05 is a bit of a soap opera. It began with REDMAP, or the Redistricting Majority Project—the goal: create Republican majorities in state legislatures across the country in time for the 2011 congressional remapping, enabling permanent Republican majorities through gerrymandered maps. It worked like a charm in Pennsylvania: Republicans controlled the governor's office and the state House and Senate from 2011 to 2014, with Republicans retaining control the state House and Senate to this very day, despite Democratic candidates

getting at least half the state's votes.

The plan had one flaw: since PA Supreme Court justices are elected statewide instead of by district, the PA Supreme Court wasn't impacted—and when the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania came before that court, there was no Republican majority to keep the firewall alive. The court ruled 5-2 that the Congressional Redistricting Act of 2011 violated Pennsylvania's constitution by depriving voters' of their right to "free and equal" elections—and a new map would need to be drawn immediately in time for 2018 mid-term elections.

Neither Republicans nor Democrats proved capable of producing a map drawn to the court's specifications—"composed of compact and contiguous territory; as nearly equal in population as practicable; and which do not divide any county, city, incorporated town, borough, township, or ward, except where necessary to ensure equality of population." The

court stepped in with its own map, combining elements of all submitted maps and overseen by independent, nonpolitical mapping expert Nathan Persily of Stanford University.

The PA Republican party filed various legal challenges to the ruling and the map with the support of President Donald Trump, the National Republican Congressional Committee, and PA Senator Pat Toomey. Those challenges were rejected by a federal district court composed solely of judges appointed by Republican presidents as well as by the Republican-majority U.S. Supreme Court.

Goofy kicking Daffy Duck may be gone from PA's congressional map, but the fight for fair maps continues. At the urging of anti-gerrymandering groups, Gov. Wolf recently introduced legislation that take redistricting out of the legislature's hands for good, instead putting mapmaking into the hands of a nonpartisan citizens commission and ensuring a future of fair elections.

WHY VOTE IN THE 2018 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

Historically, the Democratic primary in Delaware County has always been a very staid affair. For decades, Delco Democrats were just grateful to see a single candidate in every position—let alone hope for the thrill of an actual choice. If a Democrat in this county didn't see the point of voting in a typical primary election, no one would blame them.

2018 is proving to be anything but a typical primary election. This year, we have more choices than we could have ever dreamed of.

At the very top, thankfully, Governor Tom Wolf is running unopposed in the primary. At the bottom, our four local Aldan Democratic committee candidates are also running unopposed. (In the Eastern Precinct, Joyce Lambert and Rachel Milano-Davis will be our new committee people, and in the Western Precinct, we will have Harold "Buddy" Borders and Donna Henry. Be sure to check out their background on page 4!)



Other than those positions, we have lots of choices on May 15.

So far, the Aldan Democratic Organization has endorsed candidates in two of the contested races. For Lieutenant Governor, we endorse Nina Ahmad, and for State Senate we endorse Tanner Rouse. Both are strong progressives who will fight for the rights of all people and will work hard to make sure that our voices are finally heard again in Harrisburg. The race for Congress is a whole other thing. We have over a dozen Democrats on the ballot.

Currently, the ADO is in the process of carefully researching each of these candidates, and we are hoping to be able to offer a recommendation in the coming weeks. Specifically, we are looking for a candidate who would best embody our progressive values while still being the strongest fighter against the Republican in the fall.

On Tuesday, May 15, 2018, please join your fellow Democrats at the polls to show Washington and Harrisburg that the 2018 blue tsunami is on its way!

TANNER ROUSE, OUR CANDIDATE FOR STATE SENATE

The Aldan Democratic Organization proudly endorses Tanner Rouse for State Senate in the 2018 Democratic primary.

As an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia, Tanner fought for the families of homicide victims. Now he wants to go to Harrisburg and fight for the people of the 26th Senate District, which includes Aldan.

Tanner says he decided to run because “What I realized as I looked around was that right here in Delaware County where my wife and I have always wanted to raise our family, there were legislators in the state Senate who did not represent our values. To me, that is what

a legislator is, you are supposed to represent the values, the conscience and the heart of the people who elect you.”

Tanner lives in Upper Providence with his wife and one-year-old son. He holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduated from Fordham University Law School, where he worked in the Urban Policy Clinic and tutored middle-school students.

For the past seven years, he was a prosecutor in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office.



Tanner Rouse, candidate for PA 26th Senate District.

Tanner’s priorities for change in Harrisburg include fair funding for our schools, affordable healthcare, gun safety and addressing the opioid crisis. He is a strong advocate for criminal justice reform, including diversion and training programs which have been shown to reduce recidivism.

More information on these issues can be found on his website, www.rouseforpa.com.

On May 15th, join us in voting for Tanner Rouse for State Senate. He will fight hard for us in Harrisburg.

NINA AHMAD FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

In this year’s Democratic primary race for Lieutenant Governor, the Aldan Democratic Organization has chosen to endorse Nina Ahmad.

Nina is a first-generation immigrant from Bangladesh who has been living in Pennsylvania with her family for over 30 years. She is a scientist with a PhD. from the University of Pennsylvania and was the Deputy Mayor of for Public Engagement under Mayor Jim Kenney. As the President of Philadelphia NOW (National Organization for Women), Nina has fought against sexist and racist

policies that affect women and people of color in the workplace. She also served on the Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders for President Obama.

We need a strong, progressive voice like Nina Ahmad in Harrisburg to restore dignity to the office of Lieutenant Governor and to be an advocate for change in our state’s



Nina Ahmad is running to be the Lieutenant Governor

government. As Lt. Governor she would be able to cast tie-breaking votes in the state Senate as well as chair the Board of Pardons, both roles that could have a significant impact on the future of the state of Pennsylvania.

Join us in voting for Nina Ahmad for Lieutenant Governor on May 15th.

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES IN PERSON

STATE LEGISLATURE
CANDIDATES MIKE ZABEL & TANNER ROUSE:

Tuesday, April 24th, 7-9 pm
PA House and Senate Democratic Candidate Forum by Delco Indivisible & Indivisible Upper Darby
Media VFW Post 3460
(11 Hilltop Road, Media)
Contact erin@rouseforpa.com to set up a small-group coffee meeting with Tanner, or attend one of his canvassing events:

April 28, 2018
10 am to 1 pm - 828 Gainsboro Rd, Drexel Hill, PA 19026
1 pm to 4 pm - 33 Lloyd Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355

May 5, 2018
10 am to 1 pm -
334 Dickinson Ave, Swarthmore, PA 19081

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES:
Sunday, April 29, 12-2:15 pm
PA-5 Candidate Forum
Democratic Committee of Lower Merion

and Narberth, Indivisible Lower Merion & Indivisible Narberth and Beyond
Ludington Library
(5 S Bryn Mawr Ave, Bryn Mawr)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
CANDIDATE NINA AHMAD:

Thursday April 26, 7-9 pm
Moving Philly Forward Presents: A Conversation with Nina Ahmad
Smokin Betty’s (116 S 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA)

ADO COMMITTEE CANDIDATES



JOYCE
LAMPERT

- I moved to Aldan 4 years ago.
- I am retired from the management division of Independence Blue Cross.
- I have been a member of the ADO for 2 years and chair the Events Committee.
- I was the 2017 Aldan Democrat Volunteer of the Year.
- I attended Pierce College and Community College.
- I am a Senior Health Advocate.
- I am a Temple University Experience Corps Volunteer.



RACHEL DAVIS-
MILANO

- I moved to Aldan 3 years ago and have lived in Delaware County my entire life.
- Director of Culture & Talent for nonprofit social service organizations, Values Into Action PA & NJ.
- I am President Elect for Delco SHRM.
- I am a social work and human resource field instructor.
- I volunteer with New Options through DCCC
- I have been a member of the ADO for 2 years.



HAROLD "BUDDY"
BORDERS

- I moved to Aldan in 2006.
- I am an Instrumentation Specialist for the University of Pennsylvania. I design and fabricate prototype scientific apparatus.
- I am the Steward for the Aldan Boosters and Base Chief for the Aldan Town Watch. I am also a regular volunteer with the Darby Free Library, the nation's oldest continuously operating public library.
- I will be working with the Aldan Home and School Association with their fundraiser in May and their garden project.



DONNA M.
HENRY

- I moved to Aldan in 2005.
- I have been the Executive Director of the Southwest Community Development Corporation since 1994.
- I have been the treasurer of the ADO since 2007.
- I manage the exchange program for Rotary District 7450, and have been part of the program since 2007.
- I am a board member of the Village, a Delco and Southwest Phila. nonprofit that helps children and families since 2010.
- I have been a member of the Rotary Club of SW Philadelphia since 1993.

Join the Aldan Democratic Organization for a

POST-PRIMARY PARTY

Tuesday, May 22nd @ the Broadway Bar & Grille

329 E Broadway Ave, Clifton Heights, PA 19018

7:00 p.m.

Free Admission & Appetizers, Cash Bar

Meet Your Local Democrats and Learn About More Ways to Get Involved

For questions or to RSVP, email aldandemocrats@gmail.com or call 610-626-6074