By Rob Opal

Iowa's decades of success holding the first spot in the Democrats' presidential nomination process makes it best qualified to stay an early state, Iowa Democrats told the national committee during this week. 

"We intend to remain first," said Scott Burren, former state chair and current national committee member.

But Iowa's 2020 Democratic caucus was not a success. It's one of the big reasons why Iowa had to give a presentation to the Democratic National Committee. In April, the committee stripped Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada, and South Carolina of their early nominating positions and allowed states to compete for the coveted spots.

Iowa, along with other states and Puerto Rico, gave presentations and answered questions from the DNC's rules committee this week. They are applying for one of five waivers which would allow states to hold their presidential nominating contests before the first Tuesday in March. The committee will evaluate each state on three metrics: diversity, competitiveness, and feasibility.

"Iowa starts with a disadvantage in all three areas. The state is 85% white, its politics are increasingly red, and the state party received a black mark with its conduct of the 2020 caucuses. In their presentation, the Iowa Democrats emphasized the increasing racial diversity of the state, its largest cities and its elected officials. Iowa is already home to economic and population diversity, an argument supported by new data from the Bureau of the Census. Additionally, Iowa's relatively low-cost media market allows less-well-funded candidates to compete, Beesley pointed out, and the candidates who spend the most don't always win."

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**4-H and FFA Members are ready for some 'Homegrown Family Fun' at the Buchanan County Fair!**

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds

Over 254 4-H and FFA exhibitors will showcase their building and livestock projects at the 2022 Buchanan County Fair. The fair week festivities begin on June 30th with the judging of the static projects that must be on display at the Buchanan County Fair competition in August.

Beginning on July 5th, and continuing on the 9th, over 1,100 livestock classes will be on full display at the Black Pavilion on the fairgrounds. Members of 4-H clubs and FFA chapters have been preparing their livestock and animals for exhibition, and some will even be crowned the champions of the fair.

Check out the beef, dairy cattle, sheep, swine, meat & dairy goats, poultry, and rabbits throughout the week. You'll also find the Western Heritage horse show at the Black Pavilion throughout the week."

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**Iowa officials react to SCOTUS overturning Roe v. Wade**

Iowa's elected officials reacted to the news of the United States Supreme Court's decision overturning Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 case. Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds said the Court decision does not confer the right to an abortion.

"Today's decision recognized that the weak legal reasoning in Roe v. Wade is flawed. It means that the rights of the unborn are no longer in jeopardy by our federal government. Our nation was founded on the belief that the rights of the unborn are protected by the Constitution and that the right to life – a right that must be protected. For many Americans, including myself, this decision is about far more than correcting a flawed legal analysis in Roe; it means that the Supreme Court is overruling the elected judges.

"That is why this historic decision is clearly one such moment. But the fight to protect the lives of innocent, un-born children is not over. As Governor, I won't rest until every unborn Iowan is protected and re-ected."

U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley made a statement about how the decision would protect the right to life.

"Today's decision recognized that the weak legal reasoning in Roe v. Wade was done more to provide confusion than to provide clarity. The Court's decision was driven by a flawed precedent, and it should rightly be done in landmark decisions throughout history."

"The Supreme Court's greatest moments come when it takes a policy-making out of the hands of unelected judges and puts personal choice decisions in the hands of elected judges. I'm pleased the Court put an end to Roe v. Wade by allowing the elected state judges to make the decisions on abortion.

"By that measure, today's historic decision will be a landmark for America. By that measure, today's historic decision is one such moment. But the fight to protect the lives of innocent, unborn children is not over. As Governor, I won't rest until every unborn Iowan is protected and re-ected."

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**By Brayden Carlson**

Summer has officially begun and the Iowa DNR has some safety reminders for those looking to get out on the water in the coming weeks.

Pat Jorgensen, a state conservation officer and recreational safety officer for NE Iowa, is on Iowa rivers on boat patrol.

The first thing to look at when determining whether to spend an hour a day or the weekend on the water is the level of the body of water.

"Don't go out (on the water) during flood levels, some of our rivers right now are swollen, and the Wapsipinicon is still at its flood levels, some of our rivers right now are swollen, and the Wapsipinicon is still at its summer flood level of the body of water."

"We have water levels on the Wapsipinicon and the Cedar and the Iowa rivers, and the level of the body of water is the level of the body of water."

"If you go out (on the water) during flood levels, some of our rivers right now are swollen, and the Wapsipinicon is still at its summer flood level, the water must have life jackets available."

"Even if you are kayaking or canoeing, you must have life jackets available."

Pat Jorgensen, Iowa State conservation officer, and recreational safety officer for NE Iowa cautions nature lovers to stay safe on the water.

The Buchanan County 4-H Goat Getters committee is so excited for year two of Goat Getters! This pro-

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