

Mister chairman. Members of the executive committee. My fellow republicans.

Tonight I have the high honor of placing the name of Benjamin Traudt into nomination - for the Dutchess County legislature, representing the town of Red Hook.

I first met Benjamin five years ago as he volunteered to work on Marc Molinaro's re-election campaign- to this very legislative seat. About five minutes into our first meeting, I knew I was not dealing with your typical campaign aide.

Benjamin's concept and grasp of the issue affecting the town of Red Hook and Dutchess County were very impressive. His professionalism and demeanor gave him the impression of someone who had done their homework and came prepared to work. He did not disappoint.

I have seen Benjamin grow and mature from a novice volunteer - to someone whose council and advice are sought on an array of issues by various community leaders. He continues to impress us all.

As Red Hook continues to grow and evolve, we as residents of this historically rich town need a voice in the legislative chambers who will represent all of us - regardless of the letter that follows our names - identifying our political affiliations. We need a representative who will not campaign against one issue - only to allow political strong arming to change their vote, when a roll call is called. Red Hook needs a legislator who will not simply sign on to a political mailer stating a view point and then attempt to distance themselves from that mailer, claiming ignorance

We in Red Hook need a legislator who will travel to Poughkeepsie - and on day one begin working for all residents of the town. Not a select few.

We need Benjamin Traudt in the Dutchess County Legislature; and we can not afford to sit back during this campaign.

Having worked on various local, state, and national campaigns since he became a member of the Red Hook Republican Committee; Benjamin has learned the essentials of running a strong campaign and he has already put that knowledge to work, as his door to door campaign has been in fast forward since he first announced his intentions to seek this seat. He has hit the ground

running, and with his no nonsense, issue oriented, and mature style of campaigning, a buzz in traveling through Red Hook, that this campaign is one to be taken seriously, and it continues to pick up steam at each and every event he attends.

He is knowledgeable about the issues that matter to Red Hook, but - and this is important, realizes that he will be a Dutchess County legislator, casting votes on issues that affect the entire county, one of the largest in the state. He is studying these issues and has set a course that will not only lead him to victory on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, but will allow him to delve into the work that awaits him in January- as he raises his right hand to the almighty and swears an oath.

On a personal note, nominating Benjamin this evening is a very personal moment for me. Over the years, Benjamin and I have become very close friends. We've shared many memories together traveling door to door for various candidates. He has served as a campaign coordinator for my last two re-elections and he continues to impress me with his passion and commitment to public service continues to impress me.

Now because I care about Tivoli, because I care about Red Hook, and because I care about Dutchess County, I stand before you this

evening to proudly nominate for the Dutchess County legislature,  
Benjamin Traudt of Red Hook.