



Your party is hard at work. Look out for this report each month.

- Chairman Michael John Gray

JUNE 2021

ArkDems Report



ArkDems promote the American Jobs Plan

Arkansas Democrats are working overtime to get our message out to the people of Arkansas.

Democratic officials from across East Arkansas are making it clear that the I-40 bridge disaster is a wake up call that Arkansas's crumbling infrastructure can no longer be ignored. Arkansas Democrats held an emergency press conference in West Memphis following news of the bridge's sudden shutdown, commanding the attention of the state's broadcast outlets and putting Republicans on the defense for opposing President Biden's American Jobs Plan to rebuild our infrastructure.

“WE HAVE A MILLION AND A HALF PEOPLE DRIVING OVER WHAT OUR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DEEMS STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT ROADS AND BRIDGES EVERY DAY.”
- DPA CHAIR
MICHAEL JOHN GRAY

Senate Minority Leader Keith Ingram, West Memphis's Representative Deborah Ferguson, and Marianna's Rep. Reginald Murdock joined Chairman Michael John Gray to send a clear message to Congressman Rick Crawford and Governor Asa Hutchinson. Arkansans need safe roads and bridges, and we need to pass the American Jobs Plan now. The problem on I-40 is a risk in nearly every county of this state. Local leaders like West Memphis Mayor Marco McClendon say bridge closures are costing his city and our state time and money.

When our economic prosperity is tied to our roads and bridges, it is clear that Congressman Crawford and others have failed to put our prosperity first. Let's make sure we are ready to hold them accountable for their roadblocks in 2022.

Join Heart of the Party

Fighting back against Sarah Huckabee Sanders and extremism in 2022 will require every single one of us to donate our resources. Your time, passion, skills, and if you can, money, could make the difference in the coming election cycle.

[Help us prepare for 2022 today by joining Heart of the Party >>>](#)



CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

June 19 is a day to observe and take pride in the end of slavery and liberation of African Americans. The first Juneteenth was celebrated in 1866 by newly freed Black people. It marks the day when the last group of enslaved people learned about the Emancipation proclamation. As we recognize Juneteenth, we also renew the call for the promise of freedom.

[<<Read the story and watch the full Press Conference on WREG>>](#)

We Need You To Run For Office In 2022

There are more than 1,500 offices up for election in 2022. That's a lot of opportunity for Arkansas Democrats up and down the ballot. All of the countywide, state legislative and statewide offices are up.

Your state party is here to help any interested candidates get up and running so that they can have the strong start they deserve.

Contact Political Director Jacob Kauffman for more information about running for office.

[Email jacob@arkdems.org](mailto:jacob@arkdems.org)

Check out just a few of the offices up for election in November 2022 and click the links for more information>>>

- City Council [\[x\]](#)
- Justice of the Peace [\[x\]](#)
- County Prosecutor [\[x\]](#)
- County Sheriff [\[x\]](#)
- County Clerk [\[x\]](#)
- County Judge [\[x\]](#)
- State House [\[x\]](#)
- State Senate [\[x\]](#)
- U.S. Congress [\[x\]](#)
- U.S. Senate [\[x\]](#)
- State Auditor [\[x\]](#)
- State Treasurer [\[x\]](#)
- Land Commissioner [\[x\]](#)
- Governor [\[x\]](#)

NEWS FROM OUR PARTY

With fresh energy and leadership, the Democratic party of Little River is making a comeback.

The Democratic Party of Little River County is electing new leadership and reorganizing to elect Democrats. Click here to like them on Facebook and stay up to date.

The Democratic Party of Arkansas is working to build and rebuild county parties across the state.

County Parties Lead The Fight

FILING FEES & A NEW ROLE FOR COUNTY PARTY LEADERS

Voters deserve a choice at the ballot box. That's why Arkansas Democrats are hard at work building the bench for 2022 and beyond.

Our filing fees to state offices have been dramatically reduced as part of our commitment to making our Party a more inclusive and democratic space.

The new filing fee schedule gives County Party Chairs and Executive Committee members an especially important role this election. Their work to help find and support candidates in areas held by Republicans could mean a zero dollar filling fee for their area. This is good news for rural Arkansas ballots.

[Email nathan@arkdems.org](mailto:nathan@arkdems.org) if you are a County Party Chair or Arkansas Democrat with questions about this process.

Recruiting for 2022 starts today. Let's work to encourage fellow Arkansas Democrats to step up and run.

It's imperative that County Party and State Committee leaders help identify the best people to serve their communities well, so that state party staff can effectively launch a recruitment effort.

We are on our way, but much work remains to be done.

Thank you to all who are pushing forward, seeking out candidates, and helping us build a robust and communicative candidate recruitment process in Arkansas.

PRIDE MONTH with the ArkDems
Join us as we celebrate Pride Month throughout June! In the wake of this legislative session, it has never been more important to tell our LGBTQ+ friends and neighbors that they are loved and valued in the Natural State.

VOLUNTEER TO WIN: Let's Lay The Groundwork For Victory In 2022

Opportunities to volunteer to win in 2022 are already opening up. Arkansas Democrats are contacting voters right now.

LET'S TALK ARKANSAS PHONE BANK >>> Sign up!

Join the ArkDems as we call voters in critical house seats to discuss the benefits of the American Rescue Plan in Arkansas.

CENTRAL ARKANSAS CANVASSING >>> Sign up!

Join County Parties across Central Arkansas in hitting the streets to spread the word about the Democratic Party in Arkansas.

BUILD THE BENCH TRAINING >>> Sign up!

A training by Arkansans, for Arkansans, hosted by county parties and organizers that want you to learn the skills you need to run campaigns.

VOLUNTEER WITH THE ARKDEMS >>> Sign up!

ArkDems Merch

The ArkDems store has the Pride merch you need to show off your support for Democrats fighting for better this summer – and more.

Support the ArkDems by getting a Pride Tank top, a Huck No sticker, or check out the rest of the items on the store that will prepare you for the summer of 2021 and November of 2022!

<https://store.arkdems.org>



GET YOUR ARKDEMS MERCH NOW.



State and Executive Committee Meeting Dates Set for June

The State Committee and Executive Committee will have the opportunity to meet this June. Though still virtual, the leaders of the Democratic party, elected by their county committees and auxiliary groups, have an opportunity to discuss the issues facing our party and our state. We have a lot to talk about, too, so save the dates for these important conversations.

The Executive Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, June 12th at 9:30 a.m.

The State Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, June 26th at 9 a.m.

Get involved

Find your county committee

[Use the ArkDems website](#)

View the ArkDems rules

[Use the ArkDems website](#)

View the State Committee Meeting Notice

[Check out the PDF](#)

View the Executive Committee Meeting Notice

[Check out the PDF](#)

Register for the State Committee Meeting

[Use Zoom to register](#)



COMMEMORATING MEMORIAL DAY

ArkDems

One of the first Memorial Day commemorations was organized in 1865, put together by recently liberated African American prisoners of war. In 1868, General-In-Chief of a Union veteran's group declared that Memorial Day would be celebrated in May, and it became a federal holiday in 1971.

Our freedoms and rights as Americans were not won easily.

On Memorial Day, as a nation, we consider the consequences of violence both at home and internationally. Honoring our veterans and active service members encourages us to recommit ourselves to the pursuit of a more peaceful tomorrow. Today, we remember the sacrifice of those who have bravely stood to protect the idea of America and fight for our future– and most importantly, we say thank you.



[<<< Watch President Biden deliver remarks at Arlington National Cemetery Here >>>](#)

[<<< Donate to the Arkansas Veterans Village to support homeless veterans >>>](#)