



Your party is hard at work.
Look out for this report each month.
 The ArkDems wish you a Happy Fourth of July!

JULY 2021

ArkDems Report



Democrats Ring In Juneteenth & Pride Events Across Arkansas

Summer is in full swing and Democrats are getting out and being heard throughout Arkansas. Last month we witnessed an outpouring of support for Pride Month and the first federally-recognized Juneteenth holiday.

Parades, festivals, speeches, and acts of service helped show us our strength and common cause while also laying out the challenges we must face on the road ahead.

More than 20 communities in Arkansas held organized Juneteenth celebrations in churches, parks, and town squares from Elaine to Arkadelphia to Springdale. Democratic leaders like Mayor George McGill of Fort Smith and Mayor Veronica Smith-Creer of El Dorado played central roles in elevating Juneteenth in their communities. Smith-Creer and McGill both made history in their own right in 2018, becoming the first African-

Americans elected mayor in their respective cities.

[Read about Fort Smith's first city-sponsored Juneteenth celebration >>>](#)

Pride celebrations took on a renewed resonance this year as well, following the spate of dangerous anti-LGBTQ laws passed by the Arkansas Legislature. Tens of thousands showed out to Fayetteville's Pride celebration, where Washington County Justice of the Peace Evelyn Rios Stafford was honored as the first Trans person elected to office in Arkansas.

[Support the efforts of the Stonewall Democrats of Arkansas >>>](#)

Arkansas Democrats are committed to fighting back and doing the work to make our state into the welcoming home we know it can be for all Arkansans.

Election 2022 Heats Up In AR

Arkansas Democrats are quickly finding some good things to get excited about heading into the next election. Candidate announcements for Governor to U.S. Senate to Sec. of State are dropping and we're expecting some lively primaries. That's good news. Our candidates are going to be working hard for every vote, making sure Arkansans hear from Democrats well before November 2022.

Meet The Candidates For Gov.

[Dr. Anthony Bland](#)

[Dr. Chris Jones](#)

[Supha Mays](#)

[James Russell](#)

Our nominee deserves and needs a strong Democratic Party to make sure we can take the fight to Sarah Huckabee-Sanders. We can build back better.

[Visit the ArkDems store and get your 2022 merch today >>>](#)



Heart of the Party: Sustained Giving Program

Our candidates deserve a strong and resilient Democratic Party of Arkansas in their corner. We're asking supporters to take a step away from one-time gifts and to focus on building our sustained giving program by joining in and setting up a recurring monthly donation.

This is a funding model that has proven results and we're asking you to help share the word >>>



BE A GRASSROOTS DONOR

NEWS FROM OUR PARTY

General Wesley Clark (ret.) will be speaking at the **25th Annual Clinton Day Dinner** hosted by the Democratic Party of Clark County. At 5 p.m., doors to the Henderson State University Grand Ballroom will open and the silent auction will begin. At 6:00 p.m., enjoy dinner and remarks from Gen. Wesley Clark!

Buy tickets here >>>

Clinton Day Dinner

with Gen. Wesley Clark!



Tickets: \$50

Table: \$400

GET TICKETS NOW

HOW BIDEN'S CHILD TAX CREDIT WILL AFFECT ARKANSAS



**PARENTS
WILL GET
\$1,600
RELIEF
PER CHILD.**

**THE FAMILIES
OF 661,000
CHILDREN
WILL GET
RELIEF.**

**THIS PAYMENT
WILL LIFT
48,000
CHILDREN
OUT OF POVERTY**

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN IS DELIVERING RESULTS FOR ARKANSAS

Arkansas's all-Republican Congressional delegation may not be doing much for Arkansas families but our President is still managing to deliver real-world, real-deal results right here in Arkansas. Let's do our part to connect the dots and let people know that Democrats and President Joe Biden are working hard to secure a better future for Arkansas.

Child Tax Credit

Starting July 15, the families of 661,000 children in Arkansas will begin receiving monthly Child Tax Credit payments of \$250-300. It's part of the Biden administration's American Families Plan. The Democratic-backed law expands the child tax credit to more than \$3,000

a year to families earning less than \$150,000 a year. *Arkansas Democrats support families.*

Infrastructure Plan

Every day half a million Arkansans drive over what our own Department of Transportation labels as "structurally deficient" bridges. There are more than 700 of these spans in our state and they cross through every one of our 75 counties. The Biden administration has pulled together a bi-partisan group of Senators and is advancing legislation to invest in Arkansas infrastructure.

Arkansas Democrats support investing in our communities.

Join us for our next State Committee meeting:
July 17 at 8 a.m. | [Register Here](#)

Putting Out The Call: Candidate Recruitment Is (Finally) Wide Open

A message from Chairman
Michael John Gray

Our party has more potential to recruit candidates in this election cycle than perhaps any other in recent memory. The state of our nation, the growing threat of extremism in Arkansas, and the overdue lowering of filing fees is an unprecedented opportunity to make sure we have candidates running in every district in Arkansas in 2022.

It's up to us as party members and faithful servants of our communities to identify potential candidates and then to make sure they are connected with the support they deserve.

We need your experiences and ideas to move Arkansas forward. Critically, we need your local insights and knowledge to build our party where you live.

As we embark on this exciting journey together, let me reassure you that you are not in this fight alone. My staff and I are ready to help campaigns succeed. Let us use our diverse set of skills and experience to help build up Arkansas Democrats and campaigns heading into 2022. The time to act for the next election is now.

We look forward to you contacting our office and working with staff members >>>

www.arkdems.org/our-staff



Local Government Matters: Pro-Life Resolutions & Banning Books

There's a renewed coordinated effort to misdirect our local governments away from the business of improving our communities and to instead focus on inflammatory "culture wars" flashpoint topics. It's a disservice to let our local governments get bogged down by virtue signalling conservative agitators. Arkansas Democrats are making sure that outside groups won't go unchecked as cookie-cutter hysteria is sold to our local officials.

Libraries & LGBTQ Books

Last month, local libraries in both Craighead and Faulkner counties were assailed by radical right wingers for having books and programming related to Pride month. They wanted funding cut and employees punished. Packed crowds in Conway and Jonesboro showed up with strength to defend our libraries (and fellow LGBTQ

Arkansans) against those who sought to stifle our liberties.

"Pro-life" & The Quorum Court

Meanwhile, outside groups are pushing the Quorum Courts in Washington and Benton counties to adopt symbolic, non-binding resolutions declaring themselves "Pro-life Counties." This a clear cut example of local governments ignoring their real responsibilities in favor of bringing in Washington D.C.-style partisan games to the local level. The Young Democrats are bringing pizza to encourage others to protest these resolutions, and our county party leadership needs your support as they do the work to push back *this month*.

[Washington County Dems >>>](#)

[Benton County Dems >>>](#)

[Invest in the Young Democrats to fund their efforts >>>](#)

Volunteer for the ArkDems

Our success in 2022 will depend on how many voters we can engage into the political process now. We need you to call voters in your neighborhood and invite them into the party! If you can't make it on July 22, sign up to volunteer at future events.

[Sign up for Let's Talk Arkansas >>>](#)

[Sign up to volunteer for the ArkDems >>>](#)

