



**DEMOCRATIC PARTY
OF SALINE COUNTY**



Blue Review

*The Official Newsletter of
the DPSC*

October 16th, 2023

Friends of the Party.

Thank you to:

Good Neighbors:

Pat Edwards
Randy Haun
Beth Mathys
Gene Smith
Sally Smith
Felix Stacy
Suzy Velez
Greg White

Friends of the Party:

LuAnn Baker
Melinda Hensley
Helen Neely
Diana Roberts
Steve Rittenmeyer
Janet Taylor

Community Partners:

Tamme Adams
Helen Denison
Donna Landreth
Delois Moore
Bailey Morgan
Dustin Parsons
April Reisma
Glen Rider
Sam Stueart

Life of the Party:

Charles Bear
'Nita Brown
Gary Fults
Grace Hauser
Luke Juneau
Fred McGraw
Tanya Williams

Party Partners:

'Nita Brown
Lela Chism
Jerri DeLamar

We are SO close to our goal of sustainability! Once we reach our sustainability goal, we can begin upgrading our headquarters, hosting more events, and stepping up our presence all around Saline County!

Go to
salinedems.com/friendoftheparty to
enroll, receive a thank you in our
next newsletter, and much more!

Upcoming Events

10/17/2023, 5:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.- Women's Healthcare Forum

Come out to the Women's Healthcare Forum to listen to a great line of speakers providing important information related to women's healthcare. They'll be offering a discussion of the importance of women's health from periods to adult life, along with information about menstrual equality, importance of wellness exams, and reproductive care. Bring a friend!

The forum is being held at the Saline County Library: 1800 Smithers Drive, Benton, AR

10/27/23, 6:00 P.M. - Brews and Brats

A cookout with good food, friends, and drinks out in the (hopefully!) cool air. Join us at the home of Melissa and Gary Fults @ 1314 E Woodson Lateral Road, Hensley, AR! Get your tickets NOW by going to **[ActBlue.com/donate/brewsandbrats](https://actblue.com/donate/brewsandbrats)**! All proceeds from the event make it possible for us to continue working toward our goal of growing the party and being the leader that Saline County deserves!

11/6/23, 6:30 P.M. - November Monthly Meeting

Join us at our headquarters at 101 S. Market St for our November monthly meeting! Social time at 6:00, meeting starts at 6:30! Please be there if at all possible, as we will be electing a NEW 2nd vice chair for the Democratic Party of Saline County!

If you're interested in running, please email Saline@ArkDems.org to get your questionnaire and introduce yourself to all of our members!

BREWS & BRATS
Prime County Democrats



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023

BEER FOOD MUSIC

**1314 EAST WOODSON LATERAL RD.
HENSLEY, AR**

<https://actblue.com/donate/BrewsandBrats>

**6:00PM -
8:00 PM**

**\$25 PER
TICKET**

Updates: Saline County

Pride vs. Prejudice

October 14th was a HUGE day for the Democratic Party of Saline County, as we attended two community events at the same time to register voters, recruit new members, and even onboard some potential candidates! Old Fashioned Day ran from 9 A.M. - 2 P.M., and Saline County Pridefest ran from 12 P.M. - 5 P.M., and we had volunteers at both events simultaneously to continue to show Saline County that WE are the ones showing up, doing the work, and getting involved with our community.



Between Old Fashioned Day and Pride, *we registered/updated the registration of FOURTEEN VOTERS, and recruited OVER THIRTY new interested Democrats* to become volunteers,

join our meetings, and/or enroll in receiving our weekly newsletter and email updates. I've said it before, but it cannot be emphasized enough: Saline County is ready for a change. All we have to do is keep our noses to the grindstone, keep showing up, and be the leaders WE want to see.

A massive shoutout to the organizers of Saline County Pride and Old Fashioned Day for letting us register voters and pass out waters at these awesome events; we can't wait to do it again with y'all next year!



Updates: Saline County.

Matt Brumley vs. Anyone With Basic Decency.

In a surprise move shocking absolutely nobody, County Judge Matt Brumley fired Saline County Library Director last week. Though this was an expected turn of events, it doesn't make it any easier to stomach, especially knowing what a wonderful job she has done of making the library such an incredible place. Reasonably so, Brumley has received considerable blowback from not only Saline County residents, or even Arkansans.

Through his own reprehensible actions, Brumley has once again brought Saline County into a negative national spotlight through his disdain for checks and balances and the rule of law, with popular activists such as Jess Piper on Twitter sharing his email address (matt.brumley@salinecounty.org), and national, AAA-tier networks including CNN reaching out to the Saline County Library Alliance for comment. The fact is, if national networks like CNN have seen how hateful and reckless our elected officials are, businesses and prospective residents have too. I find it doubtful that a reasonable business-owner or home-buyer would want to live somewhere that the county executive and a board of his cronies obsess over how best to attack the First Amendment for 6+ months.

Time will tell if Saline County will hold Brumley accountable in 2026, but (for now) the Saline County Library Alliance has promised to present a ballot initiative for the 2024 election that would roll back the Judge's "ill-gotten" powers that allowed this firing to occur. Remember, this power is NOT granted to him under the Arkansas Constitution, making this termination not only predicated on refusal to violate the First Amendment, but the firing itself may be a potential violation of the Arkansas State Constitution's definition of Library Boards.



WE NEED YOU

To RUN in Saline County.

We are *still recruiting candidates* for local office here in Saline County! We're looking for folks who want to see our county improved and to provide a voice for thousands of ignored Saline County residents.

If you live in one of these districts and are interested in running, reach out to us by calling/texting (501) 420-4729, or by emailing Saline@ArkDems.org. We're here to help with any information you may need!

Justice of the Peace:

- District 4
- District 8
- District 9
- District 11
- District 13

State House:

- District 29
- District 54
- District 78
- District 81 (TOP PRIORITY!)
- District 92

Constable:

- District 1
- District 2

State Senate:

- District 6

Not sure which districts you live in? Go to VoterView.ar-nova.org and check for yourself by entering your information, scrolling to the bottom of the page, and clicking "Districts**"!**

HELP WANTED!

Volunteers needed for committees & events!

Community Outreach Committee:

The DPSC has been working hard to put ourselves out into the community and let the people of Saline County know that we *are* here, and that we *are* working hard toward a better Saline County. A MASSIVE part of that effort has been put together by our Community Outreach Committee. With Felix Stacy serving as the newly appointed chair of the committee, we need more volunteers than ever to help us man booths at events, plan fundraisers, and much more. If you're interested in serving on the committee, please reach out to Felix at (501) 944-1995!

Voter Outreach Committee:

In our September meeting, we formally established the Voter Outreach Committee, to be chaired by Melinda Hensley! This committee will be dedicated to more remote, online work in support of the party. Volunteers for the Voter Outreach Committee will help Melinda in updating VAN, the Voter Access Network, to make sure that folks around Saline County have their voter registration information up-to-date, and to help collect data on where the Democratic Party's efforts should be most focused! If you're interested in serving on this committee, please reach out to Melinda at (501) 249-5010!

Updates:

Arkansas

Podiumgate Pending Proper Precaution

The Podiumgate scandal is quietly simmering on the backburner for now, as the Arkansas Legislative Joint Auditing Committee's Executive Committee has approved an audit of the purchase of the podium, as well as security expenses made by the Governor's office. Senator Jimmy Hickey of Texarkana made the first push for the audit, bolstered by Attorney Tom Mars' claim of a client with inside knowledge of the situation.



\$19,000 of
Taxpayer
Dollars



Updates:

National

Law and Order? Hardly Know Her.

The Republican Party has completely halted any legislative action due to their failure to elect a House Speaker for a week+. Reps. Steve Scalise and Jim Jordan both threw their hats in the ring, but Scalise bowed out after failing to get the voters required for a successful floor vote. Jordan has remained as the only real candidate, though it appears that there are 10-20 Republicans who intend to block any attempt for him to become Speaker. In other words, a handful of Republicans are to blame for the ouster of Kevin McCarthy, and now the SAME handful of Republicans (plus some McCarthy loyalists) are preventing a new speaker from being elected altogether.

Notably, this comes at a time when inflation is hurting the pockets of Americans, Ukrainian aid is running dry, and Israel & Palestine are currently facing a humanitarian crisis on a scale rarely seen. None of these issues can be addressed without a Speaker of the House to call these votes to the floor, however, meaning that a miniscule group of radical Republicans are holding the entire planet hostage.

