

Benton County Dems' World



David Bernstein, Editor

Upcoming Meetings

We're back at Golden Corral!

Mon., June 28 11:00 – 12:00 noon Lunch / Social Time 12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch / Meeting	(4 th Monday) BC Dems Luncheon Golden Corral, Rogers
Mon., July 26 11:00 – 12:00 noon Lunch / Social Time 12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch / Meeting	

Don't worry if you do not feel up to it yet. We plan to live stream the meeting so you can participate. [Register, Get Link, & Join Meeting](#) by registering in advance you help us take attendance more easily and accurately.

Our June Speaker

James R. Russell

Democratic Candidate for Governor

A resident of Little Rock, James "Rus" Russell, in the University District and have lived in the Central Arkansas area since 1997.

Russell worked for the Arkansas State Medical Board as a Physician Credentialing Specialist for their CCVS Department, His experience as an allied health professional includes work at Arkansas Children's Hospital as a Medical Staff Coordinator.



In the past decade, Russell was appointed to and served on numerous committees designed to study and improve medication operations in several facilities. Which eventually led him to pursue his studies in medicine through the University of Central Arkansas in Conway.

Russell and his wife own and have operated New Dawn Counseling, a successful small business in Little Rock that they opened as a single-provider private practice in 2014 and grew the business into a multi-clinician practice serving central Arkansas and beyond via telehealth services.

His campaign is focusing on what he calls "the 4 Es"; **Education, Economy, Equality, and Environment.**



July's Speaker
Monday 26

Jesse
Gibson

Democratic Candidate for
Arkansas
Attorney General

The Vice President's Memo Can't We Do Any Better Than This?

(Note: While President Julia Bailey is taking a short leave to focus on some consulting work, David will share his notes here.)

A recent poll sponsored by *Talk Business & Politics and Hendrix College* revealed some disturbing metrics. When registered voters were asked, "Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of..," [the two presumptive Republican candidates for governor, neither Sanders nor Rutledge was able to achieve a more than 45% favorable rating.

	Sanders	Rutledge
Favorable	43.5%	31.0%
Unfavorable	41.5%	41.0%
Don't Know	15.0%	28.0%

Apparently, few voters have any sense regarding our current Attorney General. But what bothers me more is that so many Arkansas voters are so quick to forget the years of lies that emanated from the White House briefing room.

Sanders is even singled out in the Mueller report for lying. According to the report, **"she also recalled that her statement in a separate press interview that rank-and-file FBI agents had lost confidence in** [former FBI



director] **Comey was a comment she made ‘in the heat of the moment’ that was not founded on anything.**”¹* But who can really blame her? After all, she learned from the very best. "In four years, **President Trump made 30,573 false or misleading claims.**"²

I have to believe we can do better than these two. Please come to our June and July BC Dems general meetings to hear from a Democratic candidate for Governor and the Democratic candidate for Attorney General.

Vice President
David A. Bernstein
June 21, 2021

¹ N=535 ±5.5%

²The Washington Post Fact Checker’s database of the false or misleading claims made by President Trump while in office.

Board News

Nominating Committee Update

The Nominating Committee is seeking expressions of interest in becoming a BC Dems Board member for 2022. Two positions still needing to be filled are Treasurer and Secretary. If interested, contact Walter Hinojosa tuhats@sbcglobal.net.

BLUE BOWLS

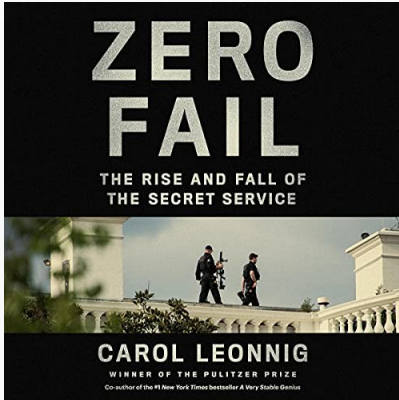


Go Ahead! Click or tap on the beautiful blue bowl image right here.

Stuff a few dollars into the virtual blue bowl. Believe it or not, your dollars are used during both **off-election and election years** to support Democratic candidates for office within Arkansas.

We only ask for a contribution of \$5 or more to offset those unavoidable transaction fees.

June Book Recommendation



Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service

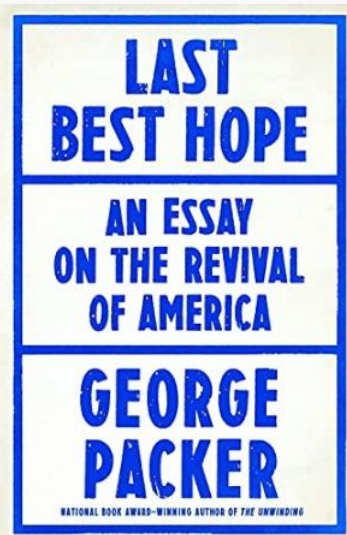
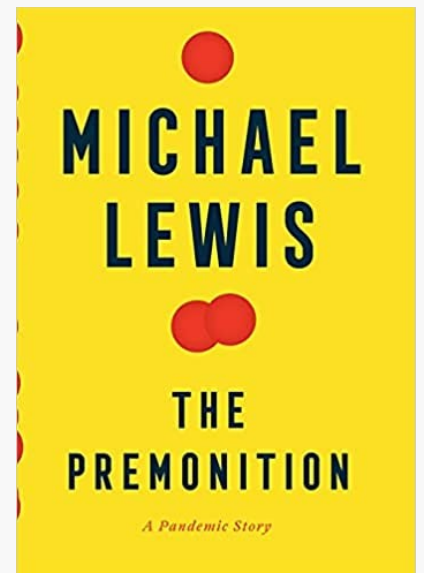
By Carol Leonnig

The first definitive account of the rise and fall of the Secret Service, from the Kennedy assassination to the alarming mismanagement of the Obama and Trump years, right up to the insurrection at the Capitol on January 6—by Pulitzer Prize winner and co-author of *A Very Stable Genius*.

The Premonition: A Pandemic Story

By Michael Lewis

A secret team of doctors has everything necessary to fight the pandemic: brilliant backgrounds, world-class labs, prior experience with pandemic flu scares, everything except official permission to implement their work—by the author of *The Big Short* and *Moneyball*.



Last Best Hope: America in Crisis and Renewal

By George Packer

Acclaimed National Book Award-winning author diagnoses America's descent into a failed state, and envisions a path toward overcoming our injustices, paralyzes, and divides.

General Meeting Minutes

Benton County Dems

ZOOM Virtual Meeting, Monday, May 24, 2021

- I. Call to order by President Julia Kilbourne Bailey at 12:04
- II. Welcome and announcements.
 - A. Visitors and new members welcome
 - B. Please remember to renew your membership—Link is in the chatbox
<https://www.bcdems.org/membership.html>
 - C. Don't forget the Blue Bowl contributions can also be given through the BC Dems Webpage.
<https://www.bcdems.org/blue-bowl-fund.html>
 - D. Nominating Committee still needs volunteers for 2022 Secretary and 2022 Treasurer contact Walter Hinojosa at tuhats@sbcglobal.net or text him at 512-940-2006 or contact Julia Kilborne Bailey
- III. Speaker—Amy Gillespie, Chapter Leader and Volunteer Coordinator for Moms Demand Action in Benton County
 - A. Overview
 1. Working with this group adds hope the United States can limit gun violence
 2. MDA founded after Sandy Hook tragedy and currently has more than 6 million volunteers representing every state and Washington D.C.
 3. MDA is NOT for gun control; it is about controlling who can buy a gun
 4. Background checks are a national law, but there are loop holes
 5. Arkansas “Guns Everywhere Bill” was defeated this year
 - B. Locally: <https://momsdemandaction.org/>
 1. Arkansas has the second-highest rate of gun ownership in the entire United States
 2. MDA in Arkansas worked to close loopholes in background checks—93% of American support background checks (regardless of party affiliation) <http://www.everystat.org>
 3. Working on educating the community on Gun Safety with the “Be Smart Program” – Adults are responsible for children’s safety
 - a. Store safe place—locked inaccessible for ANY children
 - b. Store unloaded
 - c. Model responsible behavior
 - d. Normalize conversation about gun safety with neighbors and community
 4. Ten groups in Arkansas currently: 1 Benton County, 1 in Fayetteville – Text READY to 6433 for information
 - C. Currently
 1. Next week is National Gun Violence Awareness
 - a. Friday, June 4, 2021, WEAR ORANGE to show support for Gun Violence Awareness and honor survivors
 - b. Link with others through chat <https://www.facebook.com/MomsDemandActionAR>
 2. To find senators text CHECKS to 644-33
- IV. Business
 - A. Acceptance of April’s Treasurer’s Report
 1. Report posted on Webpage and in Newsletter
 2. No questions

3. Eunice moved / Richard seconded / accepted unanimously

B. Acceptance of April Minutes—

1. Minutes posted on Webpage and in Newsletter

2. No questions

3. Joel moved / Diana seconded/accepted unanimously

C. Announcements

1. June 28 meeting will be a hybrid: In-person at Golden Corral for those vaccinated / must sign up so we can set up to meet restrictions. ALSO, Meeting will be broadcast via Zoom link.

2. Please tell anyone you know about the June meeting

V. Meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m. Tim moved / Deb seconded / passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ostas Treasurer's Summary

May 2021

Treasurer's Summary

May 2021

by Timothy Boyer, Treasurer



Beginning Balance:	\$2,591.06		
<u>INCOME:</u>		<u>EXPENSES:</u>	
Dues		-0- Printing	\$31.36
Blue Bowls	\$72.50		
Total Income:	\$72.50	Total Expenses:	\$31.36
Ending Balance:	\$2,632.20		

2020 Benton County Dems Officers & Committee Chairs

Position

President

Vice President

Membership Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Social Media Chair

Publicity Chair

Communications Chair & Events Coordinator

Name

Julia K Bailey

David Bernstein

vacant

Deb Ostay

Tim Boyer

Joel Ewing

Catherine Deeley

Anna Knecht