



Democratic Insider

December 9, 2022

All,

Democrats continue to deliver wins for Missourians, despite opposition from Republicans. This week we saw Congress pass the Respect for Marriage Act, President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris negotiated Brittany Griner's release from a Russian prison, Senator Raphael Warnock won re-election, and the Missouri Democratic Party State Committee elected its state officers for 2024 - 2026.

Despite, the numerous successes, many have been done with little or no help from our Republican counterparts who continue to rally against moving our communities forward. Even though we are not actively campaigning there's still work to be done. We must continue to bring awareness to the extreme Trump and MAGA agenda which will create retrogression of progressive policies that move our state and country forward.

As we enter the heart of the Holiday season, remember to take time to yourself and enjoy it with family and close friends!



Missouri Democratic Party: Holds Annual Meeting – Elects New State Officers

Kansas City, Mo. – On Saturday, State Committee members gathered in Columbia, Missouri, to discuss business related to the Missouri Democratic Party. The robust agenda allowed state committee members to discuss key business objectives of the party to include the Treasurer's report, State officers' reports, and the party's future strategic planning initiatives.

As part of the Strategic Plan, Dennis Lavalley, Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee, walked State Committee members through updates of the MDP Strategic Plan. Members voted to approve a vision which states, "The Missouri Democratic Party is the welcoming, inclusive party of choice for Missouri voters; champions fairness and an engaged sense of community; and ensures everyone is respected and has equal opportunity." Members also identified four key objectives and tactics to implement the Strategic Plan of the State Party. Details of the plan will be made available on the MDP website.

As part of the annual meeting, state committee members held the election of officers. Michael Butler was re-elected as Missouri Democratic Party Chairman. A native of St. Louis, Michael was first elected to Recorder in 2018, and as Chair of the Missouri Democratic Party in 2020.

Prior to his time in City Hall, he represented part of St. Louis City (District 79) in the Missouri House of Representatives from 2013-2018.

Shirley Mata was elected Vice Chair. She is the current Recording Secretary for UAW 249, and serves as the Recording Secretary for the KC Coalition of Labor Unions. She is a passionate Union member with nearly 28-years with the Ford Motor Company in Kansas City, Missouri.

Jonathan Kessler, Ph.D., was unanimously elected as Secretary of the Missouri Democratic Party. Kessler is an Assistant Professor, Chemistry & Physics, at Southeast Missouri State University. He has been an active member of MDP since 2016, and has served the past two cycles as an executive committee member representing Cape Girardeau.

Glenda Bainbridge was re-elected Treasurer of the party. Chairman Butler first appointed Bainbridge through a special election to serve as Treasurer in July. In addition to her role as treasurer she is the chair of the Lafayette County Democrats and the 21st Senatorial District as well as the secretary of the 4th Congressional District. Five years ago she retired from the Jackson County Family Court Division.

The Missouri Democratic Party would like to thank all of the State Committee members for their work to move Missouri forward. “Thank you to the State Committee for a wonderful meeting.

Today showed sound momentum among Democrats,” said Chairman Butler. “Even throughout our differences, I am excited about electing Democrats well into the future of our party.” The next State Committee meeting will be on Saturday, January 21, 2023; location will be in person – location to be determined. Continue to stay up to date through MDP.

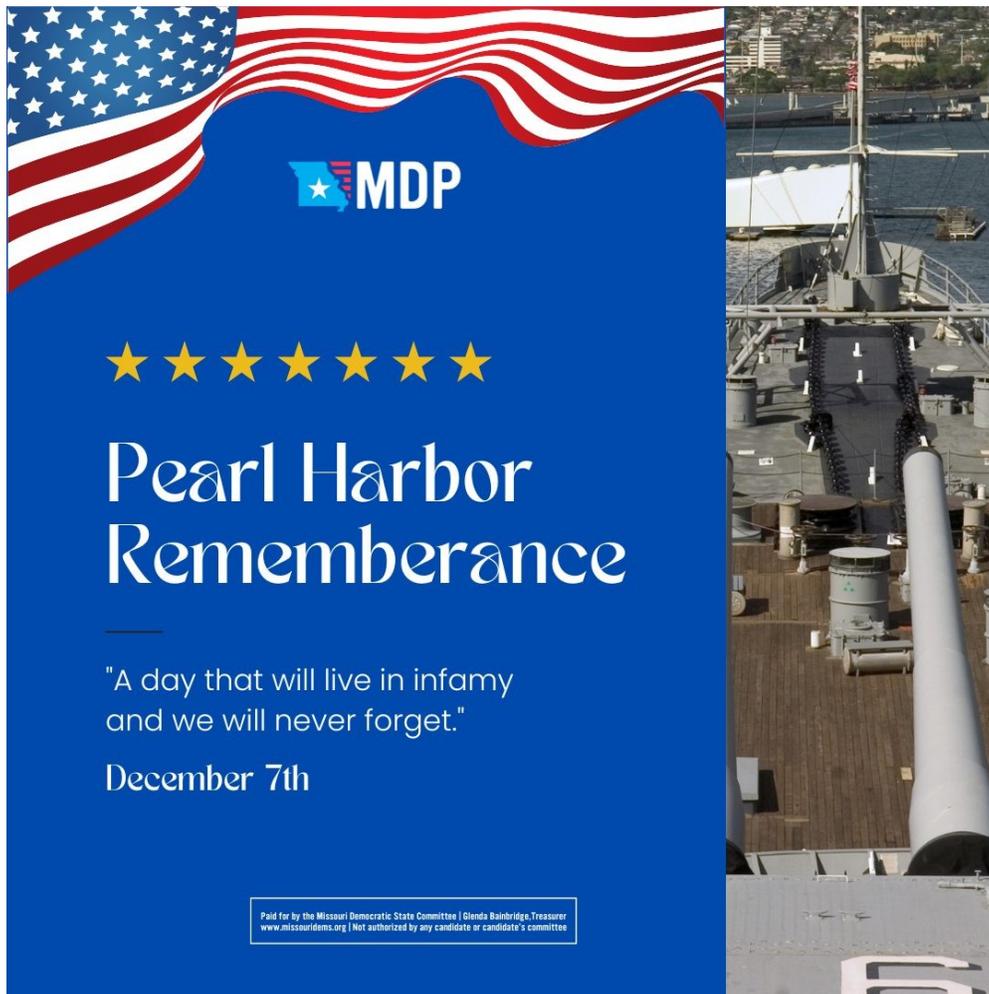


Vicky Hertzler Cries on House Floor Ahead of Marriage Equality Act Vote

On Thursday, Vicky Hertzler cried on the floor of the House of Representatives when she said "I hope and pray my colleagues will find the courage to join me in opposing this misguided and dangerous bill." Hertzler is referring to the Marriage Equality Act which passed with bipartisan support in a 258-169 vote. Thirty-nine Republicans joined Democrats in voting yes on the measure.

The bill provides statutory authority for same-sex and interracial marriages. Specifically, the bill replaces provisions that define, for purposes of federal law, marriage as between a man and a woman and spouse as a person of the opposite sex with provisions that recognize any marriage between two individuals that is valid under state law.

The bill also replaces provisions that do not require states to recognize same-sex marriages from other states with provisions that prohibit the denial of full faith and credit or any right or claim relating to out-of-state marriages on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin.



On December 7, MDP honored and remembered the 2,403 service members and civilians who were killed during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

A further 1,178 people were injured in the attack, which permanently sank two U.S. Navy battleships (the USS Arizona and the USS Utah) and destroyed 188 aircraft. On Aug. 23, 1994, the United States Congress designated Dec. 7 as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Every year, remembrance events are held at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, culminating in a commemoration ceremony on Dec. 7.





 IN MEMORY OF

Lois J. Pontius

 1941-2022



 On behalf of the entire Missouri Democratic Party.

Paid for by the Missouri Democratic State Committee | Glenda Bainbridge, Treasurer
 www.missouridemocrats.org | Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee

The Missouri Democratic Party is sad to learn of the passing of Lois J. Pontius - she was 81. In November, Pontius was the Democratic nominee for state representative in northwest Missouri's 2nd District. Tributes may be left at www.bethanymemorialchapel.com



\$500 COCHRAN SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants must be a member of Missouri NEA Aspiring Educators currently enrolled in a Missouri teacher education program

 | **JAN. 31**



 573-644-9623

 www.mnea.org/cochranscholarship



Former Missouri NEA Executive Director Peggy Cochran and late husband Paul were both teachers. Both come from families of teachers. Two of their children are teachers in the St. Louis area. They believe that teaching is the most rewarding career anyone can choose.

To encourage people to become teachers, they created a \$500 scholarship in support of one of these individuals each year. Applicants must currently be in their freshman, sophomore, or junior year at a Missouri college or university.

Eligibility: Applicants must be a member of *Missouri NEA Aspiring Educators* currently enrolled in a Missouri teacher education program and pursuing a career in teaching. Funds are for undergraduate work.

Application Deadline: Jan. 31 (postmarked by Jan. 24)

Questions? Contact: Laurie Bernskoetter, Missouri NEA (573) 644-9623 or e-mail laurie.bernskoetter@mnea.org.

[Scholarship Application](#)



THE DLN IS BACK

STARTING JAN. 9TH,
2023, JOIN HDCC AND
TAKE ACTION



[BIT.LY/MISSOURIDLN](https://bit.ly/missouridl)



The Missouri House Democratic Campaign Committee is launching the 2023 Democratic Legislative Network starting January 9, 2023! Every Monday, get updates on #MoLeg session, candidate recruitment, and ways to take action to make sure Democrats are making an impact year-round. [Sign up now!](#)

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