

# Voices

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## Give ideas a chance

As a registered voter, I always try to learn as much as possible about those running for public office, especially state offices.

Recently I attended a forum in Fort Smith sponsored by the League of Women Voters and was particularly drawn to an amazing contrast between two of the candidates for Arkansas land commissioner.

One gentleman, Monty Davenport, was around 60 and the other, L.J. Bryant, was in his late 20s.

The difference in these candidates was as clear as black and white. Bryant spoke of using Internet-mapping technologies to market delinquent properties and other cutting-edge technological advances to raise funds to be used for schools and local governments. By comparison, Davenport stated that he would rather make sure that Arkansas stays on “the trailing edge” of computerized technology just to be sure we don’t make any mistakes.

I’ve never heard of two more contrasting ideologies. One wants to stay ignorant of technology and one wants to use every tool available to improve our government. Isn’t it time that we give young people with new ideas and approaches a chance at fixing some of our problems? It hasn’t been that long since we gave such a chance to a young man named Bill Clinton.

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