



# Democrats of Oro Valley

Newsletter  
April  
2024

NIL CARBORUNDUM ILLEGITIMI

Serving Democrats in Oro Valley and Greater Northwest Tucson  
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I see a future where we defend democracy, not diminish it. I see a future where we restore the right to choose and protect our freedoms, not take them away. I see a future where the middle class has a fair shot, and the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes. I see a future where we save the planet from the climate crisis and our country from gun violence. Above all, I see a future for all Americans. **Joe Biden**, in his *State of the Union Address*

## 2024 Dues Still Only \$20

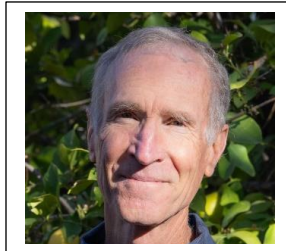
Pay using the DOV website below or send a check to DOV at P.O. Box 68186, Oro Valley, AZ 85737

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**Guest Speakers: John McLean, Kevin Volk & Chris Nanos**



### **John McLean, LD17 Candidate for State Senate**

A third generation Arizona native, John learned the value of personal integrity, hard work, and community service from his mother, a community college professor and his father, a successful business owner.

John knows firsthand the value of a quality public education. After receiving an outstanding education in local public schools, including the University of Arizona he attended graduate school in California where he began his career. Subsequently, John and his family returned Tucson where they have lived for over 35 years.

John opened an office of Arete Associates to develop cutting-edge technologies for national security which was soon generating over \$30M in annual revenues and employing over 75 skilled professionals. John is a proven business leader who has brought nearly \$1B of economic activity to Southern Arizona.

John also knows the value of public service. He learned about true bipartisanship from his uncle Bob Wilcox, who served in the state Senate with Sandra Day O'Connor. John gives back to the community through volunteer service, advocacy, and philanthropy in education, environmental sustainability, animal welfare, and quality of life in our community. He has served on the board of four Arizona-based non-profits.



### **Kevin Volk, LD17 Candidate for State House**

Kevin was born and raised in Southern Arizona where he attended neighborhood public schools. After graduating from college out of state, Kevin taught 5<sup>th</sup> grade, completed an internship with Gabby Giffords in Congress, and subsequently worked as an English language teacher in Mexico on a Fulbright scholarship.

After returning to Southern Arizona, Kevin worked as a real estate agent helping small businesses and then began his own business focused on creating truly affordable, sustainable housing units for our community.

A graduate of Greater Tucson Leadership, Kevin was selected for the Flinn-Brown fellowship for Arizona civic leadership. He was also recognized for his education advocacy as the recipient of the inaugural Business Champion for Early Education Award from the United Way.

Kevin's key issues include bringing the cost of living down for Arizonans; investing in our schools so they are adequately equipped to give students the opportunities they need to succeed; securing our water future in Southern Arizona with proper groundwater management; and restoring women's reproductive freedom.



### **Chris Nanos, Candidate for Pima County Sheriff**

Sheriff Chris Nanos was born and raised in El Paso, Texas, where he attended the University of Texas – El Paso, majoring in Criminal Justice/Public Administration. He began his law enforcement career in 1976 with the El Paso Police Department.

In 1984, Chris joined the Pima County Sheriff's Department as a corrections officer, and was soon promoted to deputy, beginning the upward trajectory in his career. In 2015, he was appointed Chief Deputy and later that year he was appointed by the Pima County Board of Supervisors as the 33rd Sheriff of Pima County.

Elected in 2020, Chris was sworn in on January 1, 2021, as the 35th Sheriff of Pima County. In his first term, he instituted several initiatives of transparency, community policing, and regionalized efforts. These initiatives better serve the community to meet the challenges of today's modern policing.

Sheriff Nanos is a dedicated and experienced law enforcement professional who is committed to upholding the law, protecting the public, and restoring the public's trust in law enforcement.

You are invited to join us in the momentous

# DOV's 20th Anniversary Celebration

ON MONDAY

4.08.2024

Location

Time

Oro Valley Library  
Large Meeting Room  
305 W. Naranja Drive

6:00 P.M

enjoy cake, good company,  
and democracy in action

serving ORO VALLEY and NORTHWEST  
TUCSON for the past 20 years

## ODE TO WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH *by Dee Maitland*

Republicans have not considered the outcome of banning all abortions.

Per the 2020 Census in 63% of two parent households both parents work. For families with children to survive in today's economy both parents must work. 72% of women between 18 and 44 years old (childbearing age) work; 41.6 million women. If Republicans succeed in banning abortion and contraception, these women are at risk of dropping out of the work force due to pregnancy and lack of childcare. Since women earn less than their male counterparts, capitalists will have to replace them with higher paid workers.

More than 85% of this fecund age group have health care. What will happen to our economy if they have to drop out of the workforce? Will they lose health care for themselves and their children? How will they survive?

Republican's platform of banning abortion and contraception, cutting social welfare programs and overturning Obamacare will only enslave women to unwanted children and destroy our economy. Devastatingly short-sighted misogyny.





## **Update on the Arizona for Abortion Access Petition Drive**

We have some exciting news to share out of Arizona: Together with our partners in the Arizona for Abortion Access coalition, we've officially gathered over 500,000 signatures. This is a huge milestone in our campaign to put abortion rights on the ballot in Arizona, and we couldn't have done it without the support of grassroots donors like you.

Indivisible volunteers have been crisscrossing the state, gathering signatures on doorsteps, at farmers markets, in coffee shops, and at county fairs. Thanks to your support, we're able to provide them with everything they need, from clipboards, signature guides, and pens to tables and chairs, along with travel reimbursements, and access to our groundbreaking Neighbor2Neighbor canvassing tool.

**The fact that we've gathered over half a million signatures at this stage just goes to show Arizonans are fired up to fight back against the MAGA assault on reproductive rights.**

**But even as we celebrate this milestone, we know the stakes are getting higher in Arizona and across the country.** The Arizona state Supreme Court is currently deciding a case that could restore an abortion ban from 1864 that includes criminal punishments for abortion providers. The Florida Supreme Court just allowed a 6-week abortion ban to go into effect. At the federal level, Donald Trump is openly considering a 15-week federal ban, and congressional Republicans have been laying the groundwork for it.

**To protect and restore reproductive freedom, we have to defeat Republicans up and down the ballot -- and our abortion rights initiative helps us do just that.**

We know voter turnout is higher when abortion is on the ballot. As our volunteers gather signatures, they're also highlighting the stakes of this election, and building a coalition of pro-choice voters who can help our candidates win in Arizona. That includes two battleground districts to flip the House, one crucial seat to protect our Senate majority, and eleven must-win Electoral College votes to keep Trump out of the White House.

We're celebrating half a million signatures and we're getting right back to work, hitting the pavement, talking to more voters, and recruiting new volunteers to add to our 1300-strong network of signature gatherers.

From now until the July deadline, we hope to collect thousands of signatures to guarantee our initiative makes it on the ballot. Then, we're going to fight to get it passed and turn out a surge of pro-choice voters to lift our candidates to victory.

Together, we will restore abortion rights in Arizona and across the country.

In solidarity,  
Indivisible Team

**Thank You to all the DOV members who helped make this happen!**



## **We deserve better than this** by *Dee Maitland*

May this photo of armed and dangerous Rachel Jones and Justine Wadsack be a vivid reminder of what we are up against and why we must unite to vote both of them and their equally bad crony Cory McGarr out of office.

Unfortunately, we haven't figured out how to photoshop McGarr suitably dressed in a Nazi uniform into this picture. But the fact is, McGarr is pretty useless. Unlike Wadsack who was the prime sponsor of 50 bills and co-sponsor of 94 and Jones who was prime on 12 and co-sponsor on 111 bills, the nearly useless McGarr was prime on 8 and co-sponsor on 81 bills. He did, however, embrace the concept of A and B districts. If you don't understand the A and B districts issue, Kevin Volk would have had to declare if he was running against McGarr or Jones. Needless to say, that could have worked in our favor because he could easily beat McGarr, but then again that would leave us with the more effective and more evil Jones. We deserve better than this.

Yes, we are in a gerrymandered district worse than it was when we were LD11. It was designed for The Leach to prevail, but nevertheless he lost. If we are vigilant and intelligent, we can flip our district because Republican's only hold a little over a third of registered voters. We Democrats with the many Independents who share our positions on abortion, affordable health care, and gun control have them outnumbered.

To bring us to victory we have two excellent candidates running who can help us gain control of the Senate and the House. The MAGAs have a mere two-person majority in the Senate and only a one-person majority in the House. We are that close to turning our state around.

If you are unable to attend Monday's DOV meeting to meet and hear from both candidates, I encourage you to listen to John McLean's hour [interview](#) with the Democrats of Greater Tucson to hear what a highly intelligent and moral person he is. He can definitely unseat Wadsack as our LD17 senator.

Kevin Volk, our LD17 candidate for the House is equally promising. Hopefully, with our support he can win his seat as our Representative using the single shot philosophy. Unfortunately, that will still leave us with one really bad MAGA Representative but if we're lucky it will be the ineffectual McGarr.

Once we win, we will have the chance to protect democracy from all the ways Republicans use to sabotage it. I encourage you to listen to Ezra Klein's [five ideas to improve U.S. politics](#). It clearly summarizes what we need to do: 1) Eliminate the Electoral College, 2) Abolish the Filibuster, 3) End partisan gerrymandering, 4) Have open primaries, and 5) Curtail money in politics.

We are on the right side of history. Most people are in favor of our issues: women's rights, kindness to the unfortunate, regulated capitalism, the rule of law, affordable health care, and the separation of church and state. We must remember who we are, keep informed, plan for the future, and VOTE.

## **Adopt a Roadway Program** *by Susan Bickel*

### **Please Join Us on Saturday, April 13!**

You have likely seen signs all over the city advertising the community service of various civic organizations or other nonprofits. Have you seen our sign?

For over seven years, members of Democrats of Oro Valley have participated in the Adopt a Roadway program which is sponsored by Pima County.

The work of volunteers helps save the taxpayers of Pima County approximately \$250 per mile of cleaned roadways. This translates into thousands of taxpayer dollars saved.

By adopting a roadway, DOV is rewarded with an eye-catching blue and white sign with the name of our organization printed for all to see.

Please join other DOV members and participate in an easy but necessary community service!

We will meet **Saturday, April 13, at 8:30 AM** to pick up trash along La Cholla Boulevard. Our meeting site is at the corner of **Hardy and La Cholla** right next to our sign.

Vests and trash bags are provided by the county. Bags are left at the site for pick up by county vehicles. DOV provides some graspers but if you have one of your own, please bring it. Don't forget your hat, gloves, sunscreen, and water!

We are usually finished within an hour. We hope to see you soon!





## **The Best of Biden** by Jacolyn Marshall

### **Health & Safety**

- DEA reported drug distributor Morris & Dickson agreed to admit wrongdoing, comply with heightened reporting requirements, surrender a DEA certificate, and forfeit \$19 million for fueling the opioid crisis.
- FDA approved asthma medication for people with food allergies to avoid severe reactions, helping an estimated 17 million who suffer rapid, serious, and potentially deadly symptoms to certain foods.
- WH announced states will share \$5.8 billion to upgrade water treatment plants and replace aging water mains, storm drains, and water pipes as part of the largest investment in clean water in US history.
- FAA gave Boeing 90 days to devise a plan to fix quality control problems and meet safety standards for building planes.

### **Economy**

- Federal Reserve remains on track to cut interest rates three times this year, noting the nation's job market and economy remain strong.
- Commerce Department announced the value of goods imported from Mexico rose nearly 5% last year to more than \$475 billion.
- Biden administration officials announced the average hourly pay rose in January and remains higher than it was a year earlier, as inflation is gradually coming under control.
- IRS is conducting audits of large corporations that are allowing executives to use their private jets for personal use and the high-income taxpayers who are writing it off as a tax deduction.
- Federal Trade Commission sued to block a merger between Kroger and Albertsons that would lead to additional grocery price hikes. Attorneys general in eight states, including Arizona joined in the lawsuit.
- Commerce Department reported the US economy grew at a robust 3.2% annual rate from October through December, propelled by healthy consumer spending.
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's new regulations set a ceiling of \$8 for most credit card late charges that will save Americans up to \$10 billion a year in junk fees.
- Biden formed a new strike force to crack down on illegal and unfair pricing on things like groceries, prescription drugs, health care, housing, and financial services.

### **Environment & Climate Change**

- EPA finalized a rule setting tougher standards for deadly soot pollution from tailpipes, smokestacks, and other industrial sources.
- EPA awarded the third \$1 billion installment of federal funds to clean up 25 toxic waste sites that include old landfills, mines, and manufacturing facilities in 15 states.

### **Justice**

- DOJ changed rules governing state-run programs providing violent crime victims financial assistance that address racial disparities and curb the number of subjective denials of compensation.
- DOJ announced First National Bank of Pennsylvania agreed to pay \$13 million to settle charges of discriminating against Black and Latino homebuyers for at least four years.
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- Treasury Department's Crimes Enforcement Network proposed regulation requires real estate agencies to report all-cash purchases of residential properties considered a high risk for money laundering.
- DOJ announced US government seized a Boeing 747 cargo plane officials say was sold by a sanctioned Iranian airline to a state-owned Venezuelan firm in violation of American export control laws.
- Treasury Department's Crimes Enforcement Network proposed regulation requires investment advisers to develop anti-money laundering programs and file reports of suspicious activity detected by clients.
- Biden nominated two women for federal district court judgeships in Arizona. So far, Biden has named 134 district court judges and 40 appeals court judges to the bench.

### **Social Justice**

- Biden hosted family members of civil rights icons and major figures in celebration of Black history, highlighting their commitment to education, voting rights, and job creation in Black communities.
- Biden announced the SAVE program is canceling federal student loans for nearly 153,000 borrowers.
- Energy Department met with tribal leaders to negotiate their applications for 17 projects that would provide access to renewable energy on Native American reservations in AZ and across the nation.
- Department of Education fined Christian Liberty University \$14M for violations of the Clery Act that requires reporting crimes, supporting victims of sexual assault, and establishing safety measures.

### **Immigration and Border Security**

- Biden met with the nation's governors to explore executive actions to address migration along our southern border and urged them to pressure their congressmen to revisit the bipartisan border bill.
- Biden visited the US-Mexico border in Brownsville, Texas, as part of his efforts to crack down on illegal crossings and increase legal pathways for migrants to arrive by plane to join their sponsors.

### **Technology and Cybersecurity**

- Biden administration announced a new policy allowing the government to impose visa restrictions on foreign individuals involved in the misuse of commercial spyware to target others.
- Biden administration provided \$1.5 billion to computer chip company Global-Foundries to expand its domestic production in New York and Vermont under the 2022 CHIPS and Science Act.
- Biden issued an order for Commerce Secretary to consult with experts concerning publicly available AI systems and report their recommendations on how to manage potential benefits and security risks.

### **Government**

- US tax revenues are expected to rise by as much as \$561 billion over the next decade due to the increased enforcement made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Federal budget deficit is expected to drop by \$188 million this fiscal year as tax revenues increase.
- Biden launched a task force to address the systemic problem of mishandling classified information during presidential transitions to determine best practices for safeguarding sensitive documents.
- Biden criticized Trump for calling into question the US commitment to defend its NATO allies from attack as dangerous, un-American, and sowing fears about US dependability across the globe.
- WH announced Palestinians in the US will be shielded from deportation under a 'deferred enforced departure' as the Israel-Hamas war continues, citing 'significantly deteriorated conditions' in Gaza.
- US Army awarded Raytheon's Tucson operation \$75 M for 600 drone interceptors and \$237 M for anti-drone systems; US Navy awarded \$150M to upgrade its Coyote 3 drone for precision-strike capabilities.
- Biden launched a task force to address the systemic problem of mishandling classified information.
- Biden convened the top four congressional leaders at the White House to press the lawmakers to pass the emergency aid package for Ukraine and Israel and avert a government shutdown.

### **International Relations:**

- US increased its urgent military assistance to Guyana, as neighboring Venezuela threatens to seize a large part of the country's territory.
- US targeted-drone strike killed a high-ranking commander of the Hezbollah militia responsible for attacks on American troops in the Iraqi region.
- State Department announced top diplomats from US and China held candid and constructive discussions about key issues of Taiwan, the South China Sea, Russia, and synthetic opioids.
- Homeland Security Secretary met with newly elected Guatemalan President to discuss regional migration, security, and the economy, and affirmed their commitment to continued mutual collaboration.
- US launched a new series of airstrikes against Iran-backed rebels that destroyed 73 missiles before launch, 17 drones, 13 bomb-laden drone boats, and one underwater explosive drone.
- US and UK struck 18 Houthi militia sites in Yemen in response to a new surge of attacks on shipping vessels in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.
- US and UK imposed new sanctions on Iranian officials, Houthi Members, and two shipping firms registered in Hong Kong and the Marshall Islands.

### **International Relations: Israel**

- Secretary of State met with Qatari Prime Minister who has been working with the US and Egypt to broker a ceasefire and the release of more than 100 hostages.
- Biden pressed Israeli Prime Minister to halt an attack on the densely populated Gaza border town of Rafah until there is a credible and executable plan to protect civilians and strengthen humanitarian aid.
- Biden welcomed Jordan's King to the White House for talks on how to end the months-long war and plan for what comes afterward, coming to an agreement on the key elements of such a deal.
- US vetoed a UN resolution to advance the US rival resolution supporting cease-fire linked to the release of all hostages and removal of all barriers to providing humanitarian assistance at scale.
- US military cargo planes dropped 66 pallets containing 38,000 meals in Gaza as part of Biden's ongoing emergency humanitarian aid efforts in the southwest.

### **International Relations: Ukraine**

- US imposed 600 hundred new sanctions on Russia's sources of revenue and its industrial base that powers its war machine, marking the second anniversary of its invasion of Ukraine and the death of critic Navalny.

## **OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS HELP OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK**

\* Please consider donating some non-perishable food items or making a cash donation to one of our local food banks during this stressful time.

\*The Democrats of Oro Valley care about the health and well-being of our community.

## **SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!**

\* Thanks to all of you who support our brave troops.

*\*Please donate any of these items to one of our local veterans' groups for distribution: deodorant, shaving items, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pocket novels and puzzle books.*

## **May OV Library Meeting**

**Monday, May 13  
6:00 - 7:30 pm**

**Guest Speakers:  
Candidates**

**Topic:  
Campaigns**