



Democrats of Oro Valley

Newsletter
March
2024

NIL CARBORUNDUM ILLEGITIMI

Serving Democrats in Oro Valley and Greater Northwest Tucson
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Our once-in-a-generation infrastructure law is modernizing America with equity at the center of everything we do. In faith and action, policy and culture, and so much more, we see the vibrancy of Black culture and history enriching all American life. It's a history that can't be buried because it lives in the soul of this nation. It's who we are, and it matters. **Joe Biden** at WH event celebrating Black History month.

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

Dues accepted at: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dovdues>

Donations accepted at: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dovdonate>



Guest Speakers: Kathryn Mikronis & Rex Scott



Kathryn Mikronis, Candidate for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 10

As a Justice of the Peace, Kathryn's duties will include deciding evictions, issuing protective orders, handling small claims, and overseeing other civil issues. She would also handle many of the lower-level crimes, such as shoplifting, and traffic crimes like DUIs.

Kathryn is now currently serving as a member of the Governing Board for the Marana Unified School District. A resident in Marana for over 20 years, she fostered a strong relationship with the Marana Unified School District for 17 years, where both of her children attended Marana Schools. She was an active school volunteer within the district for 15 years, serving as a volunteer parent in the classroom, an officer of the PTO board at Coyote Trail Elementary.

Kathryn has been an active community member in various other volunteer organizations, serving as a board member of the Autism Society of Southern Arizona for 10 years, a board member for the local Rainbow Girls Assembly for 12+ years, and a Girl Scout leader for 8 years. A graduate of Partners in a Policymaking and Leadership, she served on the Governor's Council on Disabilities for two years as well.



Rex Scott, Pima County Supervisor, District 1

As our current county supervisor, Rex has demonstrated a strong commitment to community service and outreach on behalf of the people of District 1. He has conducted multiple town halls and meets regularly with homeowner's associations and other community groups.

Among his other accomplishments, he has

- Championed the creation of **the Pima Early Education Program scholarships** that led to the expansion of preschool capacity throughout our county.
- Proposed additional funds for **road repair and maintenance** program resulting in hundreds of additional miles of roads being addressed.
- Opposed the City of Tucson imposing higher water rates on customers in the unincorporated county and supported the lawsuit that **repealed them**.
- Voted to adopt **The Prosperity Initiative** to guide the county's decision-making with regard to budgets and resource allocation with the goal of addressing intergenerational poverty.
- Engaged with county staff to revise the **economic development strategic plan**, which will allow the county, cities and towns to compete for funds to support our economic development efforts.
- Supported each salary and incentive package to **increase staffing of deputies and corrections officers**.
- Advocated for **improvements to parks and recreation amenities in District 1** and **new facilities for adult and youth sports**.
- Introduced the measure to create the **Pima County Transition Center** to steer people released from the jail towards community resources to better their lives and stay out of the criminal justice system.
- Advocated to **increase the housing in our community with** the construction of affordable housing and streamlining processes.
- Voted for the **first overhaul of the classification and compensation system for county employees** to increase recruitment and retention, as well as reduce turnover and vacancy rates.

Rex is proud of the fact that anyone who contacts his office for assistance or support can count on their concerns being addressed promptly and with care.

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

The Formation of the Democrats of Oro Valley (DOV) by Chris and Mike Dayton

The year was 2004. It was a Presidential election year. The incumbent was Republican George W. Bush. Our candidate was John Kerry of Massachusetts. Kerry was a well-informed politician, a military officer, and a diplomat. In our Northwest/Oro Valley area, we had many dedicated Kerry volunteers.

Retired educators Chris and Mike Dayton were facilitators for Kerry House Parties. We started each session with active participation. As House Parties spread across our LD26, so did the Democratic volunteers. Even after the election many volunteers continued to meet and thus the idea of a Democratic Club was formed. Mike Dayton, Pat Kinsman, Geri Smith, Jami Pond, Amanda Simpson, Tommie Carter, Nancy Schroeder, June Stavem, and Chris Dayton gathered together to form our current Democratic Club. Jobs were defined and assigned, meeting locations were considered and chosen, by-laws were written and adopted. Thus, our DOV club was formed and had its first official meeting in April 2005.

Here are some of DOV's highlights over the past 20 years:

- On August 27, 2006, DOV held a reception for Governor Janet Napolitano.
- DOV opened, managed, organized, and supplied 5 Northwest DEMS Offices in Oro Valley over the years.
- DOV participated in and held LD11 and LD17 Fundraisers.
- DOV hosted monthly General Meetings for 20 years with special guests and candidates who addressed our current issues and inspired us to get involved and vote.
- Our monthly DOV Newsletter has received positive recognition for providing powerful information and keeping Oro Valley DEMS informed.
- DOV is a caring organization. We continue to donate to the Catalina Food Bank and Veterans. Throughout the years we have given to several other charitable organizations as well.
- DOV's letter writing committee keeps truth to fact and informs our community
- In the past DOV along with SaddleBrooke Dems took a bus full of members to visit the Arizona Legislature.
- DOV collects hundreds of signatures for candidates and initiatives, registers voters and donates to political causes during campaign years.
- DOV has hosted numerous House Parties for candidates.
- Each election year DOV recommends a ballot slate to inform our members on VOTING.

Hopefully, over the next 20 years DOV will be a vibrant and informative club for all DEMOCRATS.



First Leadership Council with founders Mike Dayton on the left and Chris Dayton on the right.



**The Rolling Stones are coming to Glendale ...
AND
The Democrats for Picture Rocks are holding a raffle
for TWO tickets!**

Each raffle ticket is just \$25 and the lucky winner gets two tickets to see the Rolling Stones on May 7th at 8PM in Glendale at the State Farm Stadium.

These are *great seats* valued at \$800 and are together, of course.

Where else can you and a guest see the Stones for just \$25?



We are only selling 100 raffle tickets, so get your raffle ticket now before they're all gone! (These tickets also make a great gift!)

Don't miss out on this chance to see the Rolling Stones!

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/raffle-rolling-stones>

The drawing will be April 16th at 7:00PM on Zoom - all raffle ticket purchasers will be sent the Zoom link. If you can't make the drawing and you're the winner, you'll be notified right away. All other purchasers will also be notified of the winner's name.

Good Luck To You!

Paid for by the Democrats for Picture Rocks. Not affiliated with any candidate or candidate's committee.

Buy your raffle tickets here: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/raffle-rolling-stones>



Bad bills abound, by Dee Maitland

In writing monthly for this newsletter, it is often hard to decide which appalling topic to write about. Will knowing that our MAGA legislators were the primary sponsors of 70 bad bills, co-sponsored another 286 bad ones mean something? Will the fact that of the 251 bad bills followed by CEBV, the MAGAs were in total agreement on only 17? Or are the bills they all agree upon more important?

If your issue is education, they agreed on 6 bills, including banning books and jailing teachers for recommending such Pulitzer Prize winners as *The Color Purple*. They are for banning sex education and Dignity, Equity, and Inclusion lessons in the classroom. If it's elections, they would designate LD's two House seats as A and B, so single shot would not work for us. If it's the environment, they agree there should be no public funding for walking or bicycle paths. They are all in with banning "woke" investments, whatever that means. Outside their purview they are for breaking Maricopa County into 4 counties. And, of course, they want legislative approval for any agency regulations. Finally, they all agree that AZ law enforcement should be able to deal with immigration, although courts have repeatedly ruled it is a federal responsibility. (Full employment for lawyers.) Oh, and they want to give all of us over 55 a tax rebate, while we are in a 1.7 billion (BILLION!) shortfall. I'm not even addressing the numerous anti-voting bills they are individually advancing or supporting.

But the worst offender is Wadsack. If you understand her contentious history you would expect a number of parental rights bills aimed at weakening Child Protective Services since they frown on her caging her child, and other bills against the legal profession for challenging her "parenting". The picture of her with Jones in heels sporting assault guns shows how much they champion unregulated gun rights and violence against children and the homeless. What may surprise you is that while Wadsack joins our old nemesis Finchem in not wanting private property owners to sell their land to the federal government without legislative approval, she is for grandfathered water rights holders being able to sell their rights to anyone. Thousands of gallons of AZ water per minute for Saudi Arabian horse feed. No hypocrisy there.

As we begin this election season it is important that you see how bad our three LD17 representatives really are. Their final legislation numbers: Wadsack was the prime sponsor of 50 bills and co-sponsor of 94; Jones was prime on 12 and co-sponsor on 111; and useless McGarr was prime on 8 and co-sponsor on 81. (The A and B House seat bill was his baby.) Together they are responsible for 356 votes on bad bills.

Finally, I want to say a few things about SB1279, the RESPECT Act (Reject Escalating Satanism by Preserving Essential Core Traditions). Wadsack sat on the dais to the left of Jack Hoffman looking like Morticia Addams nodding along. The bill would ban Satan representations from public property. Sorry kids, no Halloween. Mr. Hoffman repeatedly maintained that Satanism was not a religion even though the IRS recognizes it as one. The end result was that members of the Satanic Temple looked more intelligent than our legislators. If you are a Christian, I would refer you to John 8:44, which clearly identifies Trump as the son of Satan. So, I don't know what Republicans are going to do with that.

Listen to the hearing: <https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?eventID=2024021020&startStreamAt=3104> if you want a really good laugh,

The moral of this story is that for the next 8 short months, we must move heaven and earth to assure that LD17 turns Democratic.



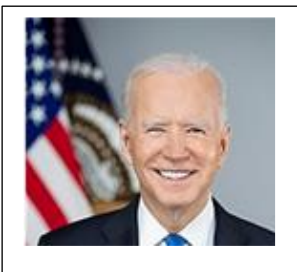
Sue Gordon on the dangers of a second Trump presidency



Susan M. Gordon served as Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence until August 15, 2019. Prior to assuming that role, she was the Deputy Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), having assumed the position on January 1, 2015. Before joining the NGA, she served as director of the Central Intelligence Agency's Information Operations Center and senior cyber adviser to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Gordon worked for the CIA for over 25 years.

For her powerful insights, watch her 3/4/24 interview with Nicole Wallace on Dateline: The White House

<https://www.msnbc.com/deadline-white-house/watch/-a-national-security-disaster-intel-officials-sound-the-alarm-of-the-danger-of-a-second-trump-term-205431365630>



The Best of Biden by *Jacelyn Marshall*

Health & Safety

- DEA announced 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 conducts 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 fees that will save Americans up to \$10 billion a year in junk fees.
- Biden has 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 new 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.

- Treasury Department's Crimes Enforcement Network proposed a regulation requiring real estate agencies to report all-cash purchases of residential properties that are considered at high risk for money laundering.
- DOJ announced the 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 a regulation requiring investment advisers to develop anti-money laundering programs and file reports when suspicious activity is 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 historical 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 will meet with tribal leaders to negotiate their applications for the 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 on-going 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 he can take to address migration along our southern border and urged them to pressure their congressmen to revisit the bipartisan border bill.
- Biden made a second visit to the 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 on 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 living in 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 \$75M 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 WH to press the lawmakers to pass the emergency aid package for Ukraine and Israel and avert a government shutdown next month.
- Biden is “a healthy, active, robust 81-year-old who remains fit to successfully execute the duties of the presidency,” according to his doctor following his annual physical at Walter Reed Medical Center.

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.
- 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

- 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.
- US vetoed a UN resolution in order to advance the US rival resolution that supports a 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 on-going 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.*

**April
OV Library Meeting**

**Monday, April 8
6:00 - 7:30 pm**

**Guest Speakers:
John McLean and Chris
Nanos**

**Topic:
State Senate & PC Sheriff**