

All of us are neck deep in politics everyday of our lives. Every organization on earth that involves human beings has its politics. Politics does not have to be a bad thing. Actually politics can be a good thing when we bring people to the table to sit down, work together, compromise and get things done for the common good.

Bill Gindlesperger

Arizona Senate, House & Pima County Supervisor Candidates to Speak



Ralph Atchue was born and raised in inner city Chicago. He moved to Arizona in 2006 with his wife Pat. He served in the U.S. Air Force for four years from 1967-1971. His educational accomplishments include an Associate of Arts degree from Wilbur Wright Jr. College and a Bachelor of Arts from Northeastern Illinois University. He worked for the United States Postal Service for thirty-three years, starting in 1972 as a Letter Carrier. He retired in 2005 as a Postmaster. Ralph served as steward and local president with the National Association of Letter Carriers for twelve years. He was affiliated with the National Association of Postal Supervisors for twenty-one years, serving as an Area Vice-President. Atchue is a first time candidate for political office. He has served as the Secretary/Treasurer Casa Grande Democrats, Democratic Precinct Committee Person and is a Democratic State Committee member. His top priority is to prioritize funding for public education from pre-K through University/Community College and JTED per voters' will and state constitution.



Corin Hammond received her undergraduate degree in Chemistry with Upper Division Honors from Louisiana State University, earned her Master's Degree in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Arizona as a Science Foundation Arizona Fellow, and is currently finishing her Ph.D. in Soil and Water Science at the University of Arizona as a Karen Wetterhahn Memorial Award recipient. Specializing in soil and water environmental issues facing Arizona, Hammond understands the need for cooperation between legislative, corporate, and research entities to navigate future sustainable demand on our vulnerable natural resources. Prior to her run for public office, Hammond was an

Arizona Assurance Mentor, assisting University of Arizona female students achieve their academic pursuits. Her priorities as a professional, candidate, and mother are to limit special interest influence over Arizona lawmakers to increase the political power of Arizona voters, identify affordable and practical solutions to maintain our water resources, fight to close the gender wage gap, advocate for access to nationally-competitive and affordable Arizona public education, and protect personal freedoms to ensure Arizonans have the opportunity to achieve individual success.



Brian Bickel is a native of Michigan and has been married to his wife, Susan for 44 years. She is a native of Douglas, Arizona. He is a graduate of the University of Arizona and has a Masters degree from Texas Tech University. He served on active duty in the US Marine Corps and retired as a Major from the Army Reserve. He is a combat veteran having served in Vietnam, Panama, Bosnia and Saudi Arabia, where he was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service. In his civilian career he was a laboratory director for twenty-two years. In 1998 he began a career in hospital administration where he rose to the position of Chief Executive Officer at three different hospitals. In that capacity he had the opportunity to build a \$25M replacement hospital bringing the project in on time and on budget. He is a member of the

Marine Corps Association & Foundation, the American Legion and the Arizona Town Hall, where he has served as a member of the board of Directors.

Mike's Missive

A Vote for Education

We are frustrated with education in Arizona. We finally have a chance to vote for meaningful change. Dustin Williams is by far the best candidate for Pima County School Superintendent. Dustin has traveled to meet all the school superintendents in Pima County to find out what they need to become successful. He plans to partner with business leaders to prepare students for success. Amphi School board has two qualified candidates that MUST have your vote. Just vote for two. I have known Julie Cozad for close to 40 years. She has the knowledge, fair-mindedness, and the experience to guide Amphi Schools to great things. She knows curriculum, state and federal laws, current trends and long proven effective educational practices. Her experience as a classroom teacher, Title 1 specialist, administrator, PTO officer, and current school board member should shout out to everyone, "Re-elect Julie Cozad" to the Amphi School Board. Scott Baker has 30 years of experience in education. He has the eagerness to serve our school board well. Although a neophyte in this arena, he brings a strong sense of independence to this position. Proposition 447 VOTE Yes! Amphi's budget for repair has been cut by close to 90%! The State's School Facilities Board has not provided funding for building maintenance and repair for over eight years. Nothing gets fixed unless it's broken. As a result, if the AC goes out, or the roof needs repair, it won't get done. THIS WILL NOT RAISE TAXES. This is an opportunity to show your support for local education.

Vote "Yes" on Proposition 447

**Hot Off the Presses: Arizona Daily Star Endorses
O'Halloran for CD 1
Bickel for Pima County BOS District 1
Atchue for LD 11 Senate, Hammond for LD 11 House**

Tom O'Halleran knows firsthand the price of putting the common good above party politics — and how he's handled that experience is one of the primary reasons to send him to Congress. Twelve years ago, O'Halleran was a Republican in the state House. The Republican leadership took away his chairmanship of the Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture. The party affiliation may have changed — he's running for Congress as a Democrat — but his core values and priorities have not. This is a quality we look for in a candidate: allegiance to a moral center instead of political ideology or party labels.

O'Halleran grew up in Chicago and was a police officer and later a government bond trader there. He retired to Arizona in 1994, “got bored very fast and got involved in local community issues, like water.” He lives in Sedona. We see the spirit of service in O'Halleran. He is clear that success is a choice to make: “We need collaborate effort — and we make it a priority or not.” Consistent with his approach, O'Halleran has identified infrastructure — including broadband in rural areas, possibly powered by solar — as a top priority. Infrastructure isn't glamorous, but it's a necessity. That's the kind of nuts-and-bolts thinking that prompts us to endorse Tom O'Halleran for Congress.

The Star endorses **Brian Bickel** for the northwest-side District 1. Bickel is running against incumbent Republican Ally Miller, who has routinely made false statements about Pima County, its personnel and her habit of using her personal email account to conduct county business. We do not endorse Bickel as simply an “anti-Ally Miller” position. His career as a hospital administrator and in the military, specifically as a liaison with the civilian community, makes him an attractive candidate. Both roles required communication skills, the ability to negotiate details while keeping the big picture in mind and vision to guide a complex organization. Bickel identified his top priority as the county's tax structure and diversifying its tax base. Bickel's approach to economic development is forward-looking and embraces collaboration. He recognizes government's role to help bring big businesses to Pima County, which happened with the successful joint public-private effort to land Caterpillar's headquarters, but also wisely knows there is a limit to what elected officials can and should do with taxpayer money to lure new businesses. We find much to like in Brian Bickel as a fresh perspective on the board.

The Star endorses **Ralph Atchue** for state Senate and **Corin Hammond** in the House. Both are running for their first term, and both are Democrats. The Arizona House needs fewer ideologues and more members who are motivated by a desire to solve problems for Arizona residents. We believe Atchue and Hammond meet that criteria. Atchue has negotiated labor contracts, representing, at different times in his career, the administration and the union. The ability to work with competing factions and improve life for all residents is sorely needed in the Arizona Legislature. “Isn't there a way we can find common ground and build on that?” he said. “I see myself as a facilitator.” Atchue is worried that the Legislature is damaging Arizona's national reputation. “Our state Legislature no longer has the voters' best interest in mind,” he said.

Hammond lives in Marana and is a doctoral student in soil and water chemistry. She studies the reclamation of mine waste — an expertise she can put to good use in the Legislature. “Prop. 123 does not change that Arizona teachers are paid far lower wages” she said. “It does not fix the fact that schools are crumbling.” School funding in Arizona is among the lowest in the nation and, Hammond said, “it's hurting our state brand.” District 11 includes rural areas, which Hammond sees as ripe for, and in need of, economic development. “We should be developing our tech businesses and industry,” she said.

One of the things that most impressed us about Atchue and Hammond is how they answered the question, “How did you prepare for this race, and to serve?” Both studied legislation, boned up on policy positions, the state budget and how the Legislature has kept gas tax money that should go to the cities and counties for road repair. They did their homework. “What's prepared us more than anything is talking to people,” Atchue said. “People want to talk about education, jobs, why can't Tucson and other cities pass local ordinances?” That last concern refers to the Republican majority's passage of laws that keep cities and towns from passing their own ordinances that involve guns, which is specifically aimed at Tucson. “There is no better source than the voters,” Atchue said. Hammond said she's spoken with thousands of voters, and agrees with Atchue that many people feel disenfranchised and aren't engaged in the political process — an apathy both aim to change. “People are surprised that somebody cared enough to come to the door,” Atchue said. “And that's enough to have hope.”

OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS.

**HELP OUR LOCAL
FOOD BANK**

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food to our monthly meetings.

If everyone brings only one or two items it will add up to a significant contribution!

The Dems of Oro Valley care about the well-being of our less fortunate friends.

**SUPPORT OUR
TROOPS!**

Thanks to all of you who support our brave troops.

Please bring any of these items to DOV for distribution to disabled veterans: deodorant, shaving items, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pocket novels and paper back puzzle books.

Please – no candy.

**November
meeting**

Monday
November 14, 2016
7 pm • OV Library

**Jo Holt, PCDP Chair
Election Wrap-Up**

Come early at 6:45 and socialize! Meet new friends!