



Democrats of Oro Valley

Newsletter
June
2022

NIL CARBORUNDUM ILLEGITIMI

Serving Democrats in Oro Valley and Greater Northwest Tucson
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Russia has managed to cause something I'm sure it never intended: the democracies of the world are revitalized with a purpose and unity found in months that we'd once taken years to accomplish. We must remain unified today and tomorrow and for years and decades to come.

Joe Biden

2022 Dues Still Only \$20

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DEMOCRATS DELIVER!



JUNE ZOOM MEETING – Speakers: Kris Mayes & Joyce Jones-Ivey



Kris Mayes, Candidate for Attorney General

Kris Mayes is one of Arizona's strongest consumer advocates and an attorney who has distinguished herself as a fighter for families in a lifetime of public service.

During her time as an Arizona Corporation Commissioner, Kris's leadership helped create tens of thousands of high-paying jobs, saved Arizona consumers tens of billions of dollars, and fought climate change by requiring utilities to produce more clean energy -- including solar, wind and energy efficiency. Kris worked to preserve Arizona's increasingly threatened water resources by overseeing one of the largest expansions of utility water conservation programs in state history.

Kris ordered the violators of Arizona's securities laws to pay fines and tens of millions of dollars in restitution to victims. She took on one of the biggest gasoline pipeline companies in America and persuaded its CEO to repair or replace most of the company's 617 miles of pipelines in Arizona after a major line ruptured in Tucson. Kris persuaded a railroad company not to construct a hazardous facility next to a city hospital, school, and neighborhood.

Kris studied political science and journalism at Arizona State University. She earned her law degree at ASU and a master's degree in Public Administration from Columbia University in New York. She currently serves as a senior sustainability scientist at ASU's School of Global Sustainability as well as teaching energy law for the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.



Joyce Jones-Ivey, candidate for Oro Valley Town Council

Joyce was elected to the Oro Valley Town Council in 2018 to keep the town community-oriented, fiscally sound, and environmentally and financially sustainable.

Joyce grew up in a family of nine siblings. Her parents taught her the importance of honesty, integrity, hard work, respect for others, and the importance of treating everyone with dignity. Her 42 years as a nurse gave her the listening and collaboration skills required to represent the people of Oro Valley.

Joyce supports a balanced budget, youth sports and family activities at Naranja Park, and wilderness arts. She pledges to continue to represent you and your concerns with honesty, integrity, and transparency.

Oro Valley Mayor Joe Winfield and Councilmembers, Joyce Jones-Ivey, Josh Nicolson, and Melanie Barrett seek re-election in 2022 *by Mayor Joe Winfield*

Four years ago, I announced my candidacy to become your mayor because I felt the Oro Valley residents needed to be heard and deep-pocket contributors had the appearance of unduly influencing Town Council decisions. Oro Valley needed “a new direction” where everyone has an equal voice on matters related to its future.

Joining me are Councilmembers Melanie Barrett, Joyce Jones-Ivey, and Josh Nicolson. We were elected as a team and have been honored to serve the citizens of Oro Valley for four years.

We will run a self and resident funded campaign to ensure that council decisions are made in the best interest of the Town. We invite you to join us and welcome donations from residents who want an independent Town Council representing them. We want to build upon and expand the many successes the Town has experienced under our leadership and make Oro Valley the best place to live, work, and play in Arizona.

Your Council has been extremely supportive of public safety. In 2019, we approved funding for four new police officers. After conducting a nationwide search for a new police chief, we appointed the best candidate for the job, Chief Kara Riley. Her selection was strongly endorsed by residents and community leaders, and she has since been voted the Best Public Official in Northwest Tucson. Under her leadership the Oro Valley Police Department has thrived and has started an officer wellness program, added a mental health specialist, and texting to reach 911. In 2021 our officers saved 11 lives. While Public Safety was under attack elsewhere, we increased funding for our police department.

Our commitment to fiscal responsibility and our police officers led us to solve the problem of our unfunded police pension liability, which will save the Town up to \$30 million dollars. When we came into office, the Town had

\$27 million in unfunded police pension obligations. We recently paid \$10 million of our excess reserves, gained through prudent budgeting, towards the debt, and financed \$17.6 million at a record-low interest rate of 2.4% to save the Town millions of dollars and guarantee that the police who protect us every day have fully funded retirements.

We have supported responsible growth in the community. In 2020 to 2021, there has been a 12% increase in new business, and 30 new businesses added. We negotiated the annexation of The Westward Look Wyndham Grand Resort & Spa, bringing new revenues to the Town. We are bringing new employers like Leonardo Electronics US who will invest \$100 million in a new Oro Valley plant and add 170 high-quality jobs to Oro Valley.

We promised to bring common sense solutions to the challenge of the Town's significant golf course losses. We chose to retain the courses and operate them as municipal courses. Through changing operators, running more efficiently, and increasing play we have been able to *save over \$1 million every year in golf losses*.

The Parks and Recreation department oversaw the installation of the popular and widely used Naranja park playground which opened in 2020. The Town also conducted an extensive Parks and Recreation master planning process, including resident surveys, public input, public meetings, staff contributions, professional design, and more. This led the Council to change the "golf and community center" sales tax to be more equitably used for any parks and recreation amenity in our community. Using the money saved by fixing the golf operations and the growth in the recreation tax revenues, the Council approved a \$25 million Bond at 2.3% interest to fund the highest priority recreation needs. The Park's bond funds will nearly build out Naranja Park with new fields and amenities, rebuild the Community Center tennis courts and parking lot, rebuild golf course irrigation and add to our expanding multi-use path network to provide pedestrian and bike connectivity to Naranja Park and the Community Center.

The best news is that these substantial recreation investments that benefit the entire community will be mostly funded from savings in Town golf subsidies! *There will be no new sales or property taxes* required for these expanded amenities. Most projects are just underway and will take several years to be completed.

I am running with my fellow Councilmembers for re-election because after starting Oro Valley in a new, collaborative direction, we want to finish the job. I want to keep working for you as your mayor, to make Oro Valley the best place in Arizona for our current and future residents to live, work, and play.

I invite you to join and support our team in running this resident focused and funded campaign for re-election to serve you. Your vote matters.



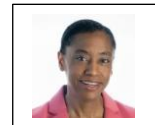
Oro Valley Councilmembers Josh Nicolson and Joyce Jones-Ivey, Mayor Joe Winfield, and Councilmember Melanie Barrett

Help Wanted!

Please consider donating to our two LD17 candidates of AZ House. **They need our support.**

Dana Allmond, Candidate for Arizona State House

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dana-allmond>



Brian Radford, Candidate for Arizona State House

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/brian4ld17?refcode=topnav>



Mike Nickerson, Candidate for Arizona State Senate

As a Clean Elections candidate, Mike is not accepting donations



Running out of time to collect petition signatures *by Jean Meconi*

If you have not yet signed, please do so soon. Also encourage like-minded family, friends, and neighbors to sign these petitions. Amy & Jackie will be at the Oro Valley Library at 1305 W Naranja Drive (corner of Naranja and La Canada) on the following days:

Tuesday, June 14th, from 10 am to noon

Tuesday, June 21st, from 10 am to noon

The petitions they will have available for you to sign appear below. Click on the highlighted petition name to read the full text.

- [Arizonans for Free and Fair Elections](#) would undo many of the voter suppression laws that the Republican legislature has put in place this year. See below*
- [Right to Reproductive Freedom](#) would prohibit any interference with the exercise of the right to reproductive freedom.
- [Arizona Protection from Predatory Debt Collection Act](#) would cap the interest rate on medical debt and protect a higher amount of assets from medical debt.
- [Voter's Right to Know Act](#) would reveal the big money behind candidates and campaigns.

The [Pima County Democratic Party](#) Headquarters also has petitions available to sign at 4639 E 1st St Tucson, (520) 326-3716. You may want to call ahead for availability.

* **This is what we are up against.**

Governor Ducey recently signed additional voter suppressions bills into law. This is on top of laws that remove voters from the Active Early Voting List if they fail to cast their ballot by mail in at least one election over the course of four years; reduce the time voters have to fix their ballot signatures, and the requirement that already registered voters who didn't need to show proof of citizenship when they originally registered must re-register. Here are the newest assaults on our democracy (click on the bill's number to read the text transmitted to the governor):

- [HB2236](#) A governmental agency cannot register someone to vote unless the person **affirmatively** requests to be registered to vote.
- [SB1008](#) Stipulates that a recount is required if the margin between two candidates or between the votes cast on an initiative or referendum measure is **one-half of one percent** of the votes cast. Current law requires a recount when the difference is less than one-tenth of one percent.
- [SB1477](#) Mandates the clerk of the superior court to transmit, without charge, a record of every felony conviction in that county to the Secretary of State within the preceding **month**. This data is often incorrect.

PROUD TO BE THE PRO-LIFE PARTY *by Dee Maitland*



Democrats are Pro-Life. We believe:

- ✓ to live and thrive children need food, safety, and a good education, not guns
- ✓ people should not die for lack of available healthcare or funds
- ✓ wearing masks and getting vaccinated protects lives
- ✓ fewer guns mean fewer guns deaths
- ✓ polluted air and water kills. Regulation can save lives.
- ✓ extreme man-made climate change kills
- ✓ angry, hateful, conspiracy theory, revenge seeking, grievance focused lies cause despair and death
- ✓ driving trans children to suicide through legislation and bullying is murder
- ✓ working an 8-hour day should keep a family away from death's door by providing sufficient food, housing, and health care
- ✓ diplomacy and negotiation should be tried before death by bombs and guns
- ✓ insurrections are not the way to solve political differences in a democracy
- ✓ citizenship begins at viability
- ✓ different voices lead to better solutions and innovation. Prejudice kills.
- ✓ wisdom is strength and reason solves problems, not large muscles, a loud voice or aggression
- ✓ unbridled celebrity, wealth and power breeds greed, hubris, and cruelty
- ✓ Christ taught mercy, humility, peacemaking, good works, generosity, forgiveness, forbearance, and love; not the name-calling, lying, power-mongering, greed, violence, and revenge advocated by Evangelical Republicans
- ✓ what you don't know can kill you; what anti-science book burning Republicans don't want to know can kill us all.

We Democrats *must stand our ground for* Democracy!

What radicalized Republicans believe in:



Words of Wisdom by Dee Maitland

☆ Mallory McMorrow ☆



In the last newsletter we published Mallory McMorrow's powerful rebuttal to Republican perfidy: "We will not let hate win". Sunday, June 5th Civic Engagement Beyond Voting hosted her at their meeting and she is even more amazing in person. Enjoy her warmth and words of wisdom [here](#).

☆ Frank Figliuzzi ☆



If you missed the Democrats of Greater Tucson fundraiser featuring retired FBI agent Frank Figliuzzi, they have graciously shared the video. <https://thedgt.org/democracy-is-under-full-blown-attack/>

His book "The FBI Way" is the most moving and intelligent moral roadmap for group effectiveness I have ever read. One of the best paragraphs was in a chapter titled "Conservancy."

When you enter the FBI, you join a conservancy, a collective effort to preserve and protect the true worth of a place or thing. People in a conservancy agree to become stewards accountable for sustaining an entity greater than themselves. When members of a group begin to view themselves as accountable stewards, they assimilate those values. An organization starts to sow the seeds of stewardship by holding members accountable for how their conduct impacts the greater group.

☆ Eric Swalwell ☆



And finally, Eric Swalwell's reasoned and impassioned speech on gun control in response to January 6th conspirator and right wing nut Republican Jim Jordan's opposition: [What are you here for?](#)

These leaders exemplify our conservancy. Like them, we are the stewards of our Democracy!

Leach & Gun Violence by Eileen Hollowell

As our country reels from repeated acts of gun violence in grocery stores, churches, and elementary schools it is important to keep track of what our state legislators are doing about guns.

In this current legislative session Republican Senator Vince Leach, who is running for reelection in new LD 17, has voted in favor of all the following:

- a bill to allow concealed weapons permit holders to carry guns onto college campuses
- a law that would ban gun registration, prohibit bans on assault rifles, ammunition, and bump stocks, and ban taxes on firearms
- a law that would prohibit banks from “discriminating” against gun manufacturers and dealers
- a bill signed into law that makes it easier for felons to get guns after they are released from prison.

Note: Since this article was written, a week after the mass murder in Uvalde minority Democrats in the Arizona Senate used a procedural move to force a vote on SB1546 that would require background checks for every firearm purchase, thereby removing gun show and private sale exemptions. Senator Leach voted against it.

Please keep Leach’s extremist gun rights voting record in mind when you vote him out of office in November.

The Best of Biden by Jacolyn Marshall

Health & Safety

- CDC approved Covid booster shot for healthy children aged 5–11 to enhance their protection as infections increase.
- CDC recommends all Americans 2 and older wear masks on planes, trains, and buses and noted that one-third of the 1 million Covid deaths could have been prevented with vaccines.
- Biden requested \$5 billion from Congress to continue providing Covid vaccinations and saving lives.
- HUD doubled the size of its Eviction Protection Program that provides legal assistance for tenants facing eviction, protecting their rights and helping them maintain quality housing.
- FDA shuttered Abbott baby formula plant, the largest in the nation, due to contamination issues until safety upgrades and certifications are completed.
- Biden invoked the Defense Production Act to speed production of infant formula and authorized flights to import supplies from overseas.
- Biden met with executives from Gerber and Reckitt on how they could increase formula production and how his administration could help address the nationwide baby formula shortage.
- Biden authorized the use of Air Force planes for “Operation Fly Formula” since commercial flights were unavailable. More than half a million baby bottles or enough for 15% of the formula needed arrived within days.
- Transportation Secretary announced the department’s new Safe Streets and Roads for All program which aims to slow down cars, carve out bike paths and wider sidewalks, and persuade commuters to take public transit.

Economy

- Labor Department reported American’s employers added more than 400,000 new jobs every month for 12 straight months, extending a streak of solid hiring that has defied inflation, supply shortages, war in Ukraine and higher interest rates, and noted that unemployment rates at its lowest level in more than 50 years.
- US dollar’s value surged in April, reaching its highest level in 20 years.
- Federal Reserve announced inflation gauge slowed to 6.3% in April.
- Biden announced figures showing that the national debt has dropped for the first time in six years.
- Congressional Budget Office estimates the federal deficit will be lowered by \$118 billion this year.

- Treasury Secretary stated that an abortion ban would have very damaging effects on the economy and would set women back decades by depriving them of the ability to continue their education and seek employment.
- Biden vowed to help farmers ease the global spike in food prices by ensuring that American agricultural exports make up for the gap in Ukrainian supplies.
- Labor Department announced employers advertised 11.4 million jobs at the end of April and 4.4 million workers quit their jobs to take higher paying jobs. Hiring remains strong.
- Biden administration announced that due to the infrastructure package, 4,300 major projects are underway with more than \$110 billion in funding.
- US economists reported consumer spending is outpacing inflation. With retail sales outpacing inflation for a fourth straight month, consumers are not only sustaining their spending but increasing it.
- Bureau of Labor Statistics found that more women are returning to jobs across the country, leading to women's employment gains outpacing men's for six of the past eight months.

Environment & Climate Change

- Energy Department plans to confine nuclear waste to one location, moving it away from population centers, and making it a more sustainable option for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- US and China, the world's largest emitters of greenhouse gases reached an agreement during the UN climate summit to reduce methane leaks and greenhouse gas emissions.
- US and other G-7 nations pledged to cease burning coal and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.

Immigration

- Biden administration announced the Department of Homeland Security has the power to reject or approve asylum cases directly, accelerating the process and relieving the immigration courts of a backlog of 1.8 million cases.
- The federal government which previously expanded the guest work visa program for nonagricultural workers with an initial 66,000 visas has approved another 35,000 visas.

Social Justice

- Biden administration announced a wide-ranging enforcement strategy to hold industrial polluters accountable for damage to poor and minority communities, reinstating fines to be used to finance community cleanup, health clinics and environmental programs, and unannounced inspections of chemical plants, refineries, and other industrial sites.
- Biden announced 20 internet companies have agreed to provide discounted service to low-income people, making millions of households eligible for free service, noting that high speed internet is a necessity for everyone.
- Newly appointed White House press secretary has broken barriers by becoming the first Black and gay woman to be the chief spokesperson for the president.

Justice

- Biden issued an executive order making the most significant police reforms in decades which includes increasing accountability, banning chokeholds, restricting no-knock entries for federal officers, and incentivizing state and local officers to do the same.
- January 6th committee subpoenas House Republican Leader McCarthy and four other GOP lawmakers, including AZ Representative Andy Biggs in connection with their involvement in the insurrection. The panel has already interviewed nearly 1,000 witnesses and collected more than 100,000 documents relating to the attack on the Capitol.
- DOJ announced it will review the law enforcement response to the Uvalde Texas school shooting.
- Biden administration announced that students who attended for-profit Corinthian Colleges will automatically have their federal student loans canceled, bringing one of the most notorious cases of fraud in higher education to a close.

Government

- Biden warned that the looming Roe v Wade decision would put all other privacy rights at risk, including same-sex marriage and birth control, and could pose a threat to all other basic rights.
- Biden delivered an impassioned address to the nation imploring Congress to take action against gun violence, by restoring a ban on the sale of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, keeping firearms away from those with mental health issues, and raising the age to purchase high powered weapons from 18 to 21.

International Relations: Ukraine

- Biden and other G-7 leaders from Britain, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, and Japan pledged to phase out or ban the import of Russian oil as they secure alternative supplies.
- The G-7 major economies and global financial institutions agreed to provide more money to bolster Ukraine's finances bringing the total to \$19.8 billion.
- Biden announced new sanctions against Russia, including cutting off Western advertising from Russia's three biggest television stations, banning US accounting and consulting firms from providing services, and additional restrictions on Russia's industrial sector.
- Biden applauded Congress for passing a \$40 billion package of military, economic, and food aid to Ukraine and US allies to defend their democracy.
- US and Germany pledged to equip Ukraine with anti-aircraft missiles, radar systems, medium-range rocket systems, and ammunition.

International Relations: Other

- US sanctioned five people accused of fundraising for the Islamic State and using those funds to help traffic children to serve as fighters for them.
- Biden administration is promoting greater business collaboration among democracies with similar values, as way to maintain the benefits of a globalized economy that benefits American workers.
- Biden met with Hyundai chairman who pledged to expand operations in the US by investing \$5.5 billion in electric cars and batteries in Georgia, which will employ 8,100 workers and produce 300,000 cars annually; Samsung representatives plan to build a \$17 billion production facility in Texas.
- Biden signed an order to redeploy hundreds of US troops to Somalia to counter the Islamic extremist rebels.
- Biden urged leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to become more outspoken about Russia's invasion of Ukraine as part a two-day summit.
- Biden appealed to world leaders at a Covid-19 summit to reenergize their commitment to attacking the virus; they pledged \$3 billion and a host of new programs to boost access to vaccines and treatments around the world.
- Biden and South Korean President Yoon agreed to expand joint military exercises to deter the nuclear threat from North Korea with a shared goal of complete denuclearization of the North Korea.
- Biden reiterated his offer of vaccines to North Korea as the coronavirus spreads throughout the county.
- Biden cautioned China that the US would help Taiwan defend itself in response to China's increased military provocations.
- Biden launched a new trade deal with Indo-Pacific nations aimed at strengthening their economies and improving supply chains, digital trade, clean energy, worker protections, and anticorruption efforts.

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.*

July Zoom Meeting

Monday, July 11
6:30 pm

Guest Speakers:
Adrian Fontes & Mario Lopez (SoS); Lauren Kuby & Sandra Kennedy (ACC)

Topic:
Campaign Platforms