



Democrats of Oro Valley

Newsletter
September
2022

NIL CARBORUNDUM ILLEGITIMI

Serving Democrats in Oro Valley and Greater Northwest Tucson
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MAGA Republicans represent an extremism that threatens the very foundations of our republic. They do not respect the Constitution. They do not believe in the rule of law. They do not recognize the will of the people. It is within our power to stop their assault on American democracy, to make our nation free and fair, just and strong, noble and whole. We need everyone to do their part. So, speak up. Speak out. Get engaged. And vote, vote, vote. **Joe Biden**

2022 Dues Still Only \$20

DOV Tee Shirts \$20

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

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

Tee Shirt Purchase accepted at: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dovtshirts>



DEMOCRATS DELIVER!



SEPTEMBER ZOOM MEETING – Speakers: Kirsten Engel, Martin Quezada & Matt Kopec



Kirsten Engel, Candidate for US House of Representatives, CD6

Kirsten is an environmental attorney and a State Legislator who has spent the past five years fighting to restore funding to public schools, protect Arizona's natural resources, and make our communities safer. She's ready to take that fight to Washington to find common-sense solutions to the challenges we're facing here in Arizona's Sixth Congressional District.

Kirsten is running for Congress because she cares about fairness for families in Southern Arizona. A working mom, a University of Arizona law school professor, and a state senator who has never lost an election, Kirsten is uniquely qualified to protect this important seat from wealthy, conservative special interests.



Martín Quezada, Candidate for State Treasurer

Martín has served in Arizona Senate since 2015, after having previously served as a member of the House of Representatives from 2013 to 2015.

Martin believes that our shared values of healthcare for all, a strong public education, affordable housing, and protecting our planet start with the responsible management and investment of our taxpayer dollars. He will ensure our investments reflect those values, rather than serving special interests.

Martín will bring ethics, professionalism, and transparency to the Treasurer's Office by being an advocate for the responsible use of all taxpayer dollars and by creating an investment portfolio that benefits taxpayers.



Matt Kopec, Candidate for Amphitheater School Board

Prior to his election to the Amphitheater Governing Board in 2018, Matt served LD 9 in the Arizona House of Representatives from 2016 to 2017, where he helped restore funding for career and technical programs and expand Kids Care, the medical insurance program for low-income families.

Matt also serves on the Board of Directors for the Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center, helping victims of child abuse and neglect, on the Board of La Paloma Family Services, dealing with children's foster care and group home providers, and on the Board of Literacy Connects.

Matt is a proud product of public schools, including the U of A where he earned a degree in Political Science & Sociology. Matt currently works as a Council Aide for the City of Tucson.

Democrats of Oro Valley Election Slate

Our Democratic Candidates:

The opposition has nominated such extreme candidates that it has become imperative to vote a straight Democratic ticket.

Our democracy is in peril, and only resounding defeats will turn the tide against MAGA's right-wing hysteria.

Mark Kelly for U.S. Senator

Kirsten Engel for U.S. Representative in Congress District 6

Katie Hobbs for Governor of AZ

Adrian Fontes for AZ Secretary of State

Kris Mayes for AZ Attorney General

Martín Quezada for AZ State Treasurer

Kathy Hoffman for AZ Superintendent of Public Instruction

Sandra Kennedy & Lauren Kuby for Corporation Commissioner (2 seats open)

Mike Nickerson for AZ State Senator LD17

Dana Allmond for AZ State Representative LD17

Brian Radford for AZ State Representative LD17

Gary Harrison for Pima County Clerk of the Superior Court

Amphitheater Unified School board has 2 seats open.

Susan Zibrat - incumbent - is a supporter of public schools and spearheaded several successful bonds that ensured art and music funding, facility upgrades and bus replacement.

Matt Kopec - incumbent - has been endorsed by Save Our Schools AZ

NOTE: The other two Amphitheater School Board candidates are sponsored by the Power2Parents group who advocate for universal school vouchers, censorship, teacher penalties if they think their parental rights have been violated, and anti-public-school agendas.

Arizona Supreme Court Judges

We are only providing a list of judges we recommend that you vote **Not to Retain**

Hon. James P. Beene

Hon. Robert M. Brutinel

Hon. Justice William "Bill" Montgomery

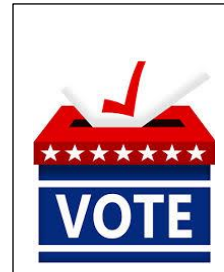
The last day to **register** to vote is **Tuesday, October 11th, 2022.**



Register to vote or check your registration status:

<https://www.recorder.pima.gov/RegisteringToVote>

Election day: **Tuesday, November 8, 2022**



It's all about choice *by Jean Meconi*



A lovely couple stopped at our Oro Valley Library Save Our Schools AZ petition table to express their dilemma. Their grandchildren currently attend private school and their son would benefit from the voucher money. Yet, they also fervently support public schools. For them, it came down to a question of choice. There were perfectly good public schools their grandchildren could attend and their son chose to send his children to a private school. That was his choice. They signed.

On the other hand, we've encountered the red-faced spewing and finger wagging. There are strong feelings of entitlement from the Power2Parents and Decline2Sign groups. They believe the voucher money is theirs. It's their tax money. It's all about choice. They should be able to choose where their children go to school, how they are educated and what they learn.

The Power2Parents now have a slick handout that goes with their slick signs, compliments of the American Federation of Children, the Betsy DeVos' lobbying and propaganda nonprofit. The DeVos group has been at this for a long time under one name or another. In conjunction with Ed Newsfeed, they've been distributing syndicated content to TV stations which is run as news. Multiple stories feature glowing reports of for-profit virtual charter schools as seen on KTVK 3TV.

What they ignore is the collective in **public** tax dollars. We can choose fully funded public schools or we can choose a hodgepodge of private/public/charter/online/home options paid for by public tax dollars. Research overwhelming supports the first option. Vouchers have not improved student achievement and have hurt public schools.

Scarce education funding should be directed where it does the most good: to our public schools that educate the overwhelming majority of students. The real choice lies with the decision to educate all children or to pander to the few.

Meet Kirsten Engel, our nominee for Congress from CD 6, on September 14, at 4:30 pm

RSVP [HERE](#).

Address will be sent upon RSVP.



The image is a promotional poster for a fundraiser event. On the left, there is an orange vertical banner with white and blue text. The text on the banner includes: 'Join us for a FUNDRAISER WITH KIRSTEN ENGEL', 'Hosted by Chris and Mike Dayton', 'With cohosts Evelyn Latham, Susan Bickel, Jackie Marshall, Jean Meconi & Dee Maitland', 'Suggested contribution: \$50 - \$100 - \$200', 'WEDS Sept 14, 2022 4:30-6pm', and a list of bullet points: '-Enjoy delicious appetizers, wine, and great like-minded company', '-Join our conversation about the economy, voting rights, education, & women's rights!', and '-Please click [here](#) to RSVP'. At the bottom of the banner, it says 'ADDRESS SENT UPON RSVP'. To the right of the banner is a photograph of Kirsten Engel, a woman with blonde hair, smiling, wearing a dark blue sleeveless top. The background of the photo shows a desert landscape with saguaro cacti and a blue sky. Below the photo, the text reads 'The environmental leader Arizona needs'.

Join us for a
**FUNDRAISER WITH
KIRSTEN ENGEL**

Hosted by Chris and Mike Dayton

With cohosts Evelyn Latham, Susan Bickel, Jackie Marshall
Jean Meconi & Dee Maitland

Suggested contribution: \$50 - \$100 - \$200

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- Please click [here](#) to RSVP

ADDRESS SENT UPON RSVP

The environmental leader Arizona needs

DO YOUR PART TO SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY by Mike Dayton

Every Democrat needs to be participating in the 2022 election cycle. Now more than ever, we need all hands on deck to **SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY**. We are counting on YOU to volunteer in one or more of the following ways:

1. Go out and canvass with the candidate of your choice. Talking to voters is still the most effective strategy for winning over voters.
2. Phone banking or text messaging is another way to reach voters.
3. A Letter to the Editor can be a persuasive way to influence a voter with your own personal and powerful words.
4. Writing postcards may convince low-voting Democrats, Independents and/or left leaning Republicans to vote for Democrats.
5. Volunteer to work at a candidate's office to help record changes in voter information or clean office area.
6. Help put up candidate yard signs all around Tucson and in your front yard.
7. If you are working and unable to do any of the above activities, DONATE to a candidate's campaign. Every election takes money to amplify their message and convince voters to vote for Democrats.
8. Attend or host a House Party to support your candidate.

DO NOT wake up on November the 9th and see that the MAGA Republicans have won the election. Time is **NOW**, not tomorrow or next week. **DO YOUR PART** and feel you contributed all you could to **SAVE OUR DEMOCRACY!**



Is the Worst of Leach Yet to Come? *by Dee Maitland*

We celebrate that Vince Leach lost the primary in the new LD17 that was specifically gerrymandered for him by Independent Districting Commissioner David Mehl, a local Republican developer. We celebrate that he then lost his legal maneuver in which he claimed the winner did not live within the district and therefore her win should be invalidated and since he came in second, he should be declared the winner.

We can enjoy that the winning Republican candidate is a true MAGA kook whom Mike Nickerson should easily beat. But I worry.

With the elevation of Karen Fann to national chair of the American Legislative Exchange Council (purveyor of far-right legislation), with Leach on the board and with 28 of our Arizona Republican Legislators as members, the Koch donor network is poised to make our state their private oligarchy.

Then, every benefit that our legislature could bestow on millionaires and billionaires would be realized:

- mining in the Grand Canyon (proposed by Finchem)
- no restrictions or taxes on guns
- starving public schools while allowing unregulated private school funding
- subjugation of women
- suppression of voters
- overthrowing the winning votes when Republicans lose
- the privatization of public goods and services
- confiscation of national land in Arizona (another Finchem idea)
- endless taxpayer funded lawsuits
- unfettered development with no concern for water scarcity.

All of this could have been theirs. So, I still worry.

We must be vigilant to ensure the likes of The Leach cannot crawl back into public office.

We must VOTE all the MAGA candidates OUT in November.

The Best of Biden by *Jacolyn Marshall*

Health & Safety

- Biden signed the Health Care bill into law, capping prescription drug costs at \$2,000 per year for Medicare recipients, helping 13 million Americans pay for health insurance by extending subsidies, authorizing Medicare the power to negotiate drug costs, and capping insulin costs at \$35 per month.
- Biden signed an executive order allowing states that have not outlawed abortion to apply for specific Medicaid waivers that would enable them to treat out-of-state women and calling on health care providers to comply with federal nondiscrimination laws.
- Biden signed the PACT act, expanding federal health care services for millions of veterans who served at military bases where they were exposed to toxic smoke from burn pits.
- Biden appointed a representative of FEMA and CDC to coordinate efforts to combat the monkeypox outbreak.
- US health officials authorized a plan to stretch the nations limited supply of monkeypox vaccine.
- FDA passed a new regulation that will allow almost 30 million Americans with mild to moderate hearing loss to purchase hearing aids online and over the counter.
- FDA announced a long-awaited review of prescription opioid medications, their risks, and their contribution to the overdose crisis is underway, complicated by the industry's failure to study their effectiveness for long-term pain.
- CDC authorized the first updated boosters by Pfizer and Moderna that target the BA.5 omicron strain.

Economy

- Biden signed the CHIPS and Science Act into law which will boost the US semiconductor industry.
- Labor Department announced US employers added an astonishing 528,000 new jobs in July, easing fears of a recession, and unemployment dropped to 3.5%, a 50-year low. A total number of open jobs in the US is 11.2million which equals nearly two jobs for every unemployed person.
- Secret Service announced it recovered \$286 million in fraudulently obtained pandemic loans and returned the money to the Small Business Administration.
- National debt is down a record \$1.7 trillion this year, more than any other year in history; 126 leading economists agreed that reducing the deficit will fight inflation and support a strong, stable growth economy.
- Biden and Commerce Secretary announced the government will send \$1 billion in federal grants for manufacturing, clean energy, farming, biotech and more to regional partnerships across the nation as part of a long-term effort to revitalize parts of the country that need an economic boost.

Environment & Climate Change

- Biden signed the most substantial federal investment in history to fight climate change, allocating \$375 billion over the next decade to build a clean energy economy by investing in solar panels, wind turbines, battery plants, and electric cooperatives, lowering energy costs, reducing pollution, and protecting 2 million acres of forests.
- Department of Energy announced clean energy incentives in the climate bill will cut greenhouse gas emissions by 1.1 billion tons by 2030.
- EPA issued warnings to residents who live near medical sterilizing plants in 13 states and Puerto Rico about cancer risks from ethylene oxide emissions.

Education

- Biden administration announced students who received federal loans to attend ITT Technical and Corinthian Colleges will have their debt canceled after authorities found widespread and pervasive misrepresentation by them.
- Education Department canceled its recognition of Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools from participating in federal student aid programs for having approved colleges that misled students about job placement rates and, in at least one case, lacked evidence of students or faculty at an approved college.
- Biden announced the cancelation of \$10,000 in student debt for individuals earning less than \$125,000 annually and up to \$20,000 in loan relief for those who received Pell grants and established a repayment cap of no more than 5% of applicant's monthly income for their undergraduate loans as long as their payments stay current.

Immigration

- DHS announced asylum-seekers are no longer required to wait in Mexico for hearings in US immigration court.
- DHS is planning to issue photo ID cards to immigrants to help them stay up to date on meetings & court hearings.

Justice

- DOJ sued Idaho over its statute that criminalizes abortions, arguing that it violates federal law.
- FBI agents seized 33 boxes containing top secret and other classified documents from Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate.
- FBI considers charges of obstruction which could pose a direct legal threat to Trump and associates, since the DOJ historically regards obstruction as an aggravating factor that tilts in favor of bringing criminal charges.

- Biden administration reaffirmed its commitment to DACA, officially posting regulations to extend the ten -year-old program that has protected hundreds of thousands of young undocumented immigrant children from removal.

Government

- Biden’s Inflation Reduction law will be paid for by new taxes on large companies and will increase audit enforcement by the IRS of wealthy individuals and entities, with any additional funds collected going to reduce the federal deficit.
- Biden confirmed a CIA drone strike killed top al-Qaida leader who told his followers to attack the US and its allies.
- CIA leaders of the agency’s counterterrorism center announced more money and resources will be shifted to the political, economic, and military threats posed by China.
- Secretary of Defense announced a new Civilian Protection Center to help avoid civilian casualties during military operations around the world through better education, training, and screening before strikes are launched.
- Biden warned that equality and democracy are under assault, specifically citing MAGA Republican extremists who pose a threat to our nation and its future and asking all Americans to vote to protect our rights and democracy itself.

International Relations: Ukraine

- Biden announced a new round of US sanctions against Russian elites, including Putin’s partner, freezing visas and imposing other property restrictions.
- Biden announced the largest delivery of rockets, ammunition, and other material to Ukraine from DOD stockpiles to combat Russian attacks in the south.

International Relations: Other

- Biden ratified the accession protocols for Sweden and Finland to join NATO.
- Biden administration announced it will upgrade its engagement with the Arctic Council and countries in a region that are rapidly changing due to climate change and appoint an ambassador-at-large for the Arctic.
- Biden administration announced US, EU and Iran sent senior representatives to Vienna in a last-ditch effort to revive talks over Tehran’s tattered 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.
- Biden administration responded to Iran’s latest offer to resume its compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal as proposed by the EU, which will be followed by another exchange of technical details and messaging campaigns, suggesting an agreement could be near.
- Secretary of State began his three-nation tour of African nations as part of a competition between Russian & Western allies for their support in the Ukraine war.
- Biden asked Congress to provide more than \$13.7 billion in the war in Ukraine, to provide equipment, intelligence support and direct budgetary support.
- Biden called on Syria to return freelance journalist who disappeared at a government checkpoint a decade ago.
- US Navy amphibious assault ship took part in international training in the Baltic Sea amid Russia’s war in Ukraine and tensions in the region.

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.*

October Zoom Meeting

**Monday, October 10
6:30 pm**

**Guest Speakers:
League of Women Voters
Representatives**

**Topic:
Ballot Initiatives**