

The Arizona Legislative Alert

Bringing Unitarian Universalist Values to Public Policy

On to November!

Prepared by Anne L. Schneider, PH.D. All opinions are those of the author.

Access the PDF here: <http://files.vuu.org/uujaz/2019/alert-080620.pdf>

Previous editions of the AZ Legislative Alert are at <https://www.vuu.org/legislative-advocacy/>

Sign up for the AZ Legislative Alert: legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org

August 6, 2020

FIND YOUR LEGISLATORS!

<https://azredistricting.org/districtlocator/> put in your address, get your Legislative District
<https://www.azleg.gov/memberroster/> Legislative Members, by District

What's Inside? [Primaries Highlights](#) [Be Election Ready](#) [Advocacy Groups Corporation Commission](#) [State Legislature](#) [Prison Protection](#) [County Attorney](#) [Covid update](#) [Vote for Climate Action](#)

Updates on the primary elections: Get results here <https://results.arizona.vote/#/featured/17/0>

- U.S. House – The Democrats currently hold 5 seats to Republicans 4. Will that change? Maybe. In Congressional District 6 (Scottsdale and NW Phoenix metro area), Hiral Tipirneni won the Democratic nomination over three opponents gaining 53% of the vote and will face embattled David Schweikert (R) in the fall. Schweikert has faced ethics challenges and admitted culpability in several of them. Tipirneni is a well-funded candidate. In the other Congressional districts (see below), nothing is likely to change.

- **In Arizona, most incumbents for state legislative seats won (but there were some upsets).**
- **Upset! Sylvia Allen, stalwart Republican from LD 6 lost to Wendy Rogers for the Senate nomination.** Rogers is an even more conservative Republican than Allen; and some Republican leaders are upset about Rogers' prospects in November! Rogers will face Felicia French, Democrat, in the general election. This is a seat the Democrats think they have a chance to win. LD 6 includes Flagstaff, Payson, Sedona, Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Snowflake, Clarkdale, Holbrook, Williams, Star Valley, Jerome, Tusayan, Taylor and many unincorporated areas. It contains 131,256 registered voters, with a party breakdown of 37% Republican, 28% Democrat, and 34% Other.
- **Former sheriff Joe Arpaio** almost eeked out a win over his Republican challenger for the Maricopa county sheriff Republican nomination, but still trails by about 500 votes (and not clear how many votes are left to count in Maricopa county). Jerry Sheridan probably will be the winner to face Paul Penzone, current sheriff, in November.
- **In LD 15, Nancy Barto – one of the most conservative Republicans in the Arizona House ran for Senate and has defeated moderate Republican Heather Carter.** Carter was a moderate who usually supported women's reproductive rights, health care, LGBTQ+rights, transgender rights, etc. Barto did not: she introduced a bill that did not pass in the House to ban transgender girls from girl's public school sports.
- **Maricopa County Attorney Primary** – There will be a female County Attorney for Maricopa County, as both the Republican and Democratic candidates are women. Julie Gunnigle turned what was expected to be a tight race among four Democratic candidates in the Democratic primary into a runaway victory gaining 60% of the vote. Allister Adel is currently the county attorney. She's running unopposed in the Republican primary.
- **Pima County Attorney Primary.** It appears that Pima county also will have a female county attorney! Defense Attorney Laura Conover has won the three-way Democratic primary and will take control of the Pima County Attorney's Office in January after Barbara LaWall retired after 24 years as the county's top prosecutor. Conover had about 57% percent of the vote. Jonathan Mosher, a prosecutor in the office who had LaWall's endorsement, won 37 percent of the vote. No Republican filed for the office, so Conover will win the general election in November.

Be Election Ready!

- **Check your voting status; get on the Permanent Early Voting List (PEVL), update your registration and everything else you need to be eligible to vote.** You will need Arizona Driver License or Identification Card, or your voter identification number (found on a Voter Identification Card issued by the County Recorder). **Here's a terrific "voter portal":** <https://my.arizona.vote/PortalList.aspx>
- **How do I decide who to vote for?**

Some just vote for the party, but others think you ought to vote for the individual. Reasons to vote for the party: parties tend to have a particular set of values that they pursue while in office and if these reflect your values, then it probably is safe for you to vote for the candidate of your party. A second reason is that the party caucus, especially in the legislature, is very strong and a candidate you like but who is in the party NOT of your choice may be pressured repeatedly to vote with their party. Others think you should study each race and each individual candidate and vote for the one who is closest to your position on issues or who you think would do the best job.

- **How do I get the information I need if I decide I want to volunteer and help a candidate?**

Candidates all have web pages. Check out what they say.

Work for the party of your choice, in your county, and help their slate of candidates. Maricopa county Democratic party is at this link <https://maricopadems.org/>, Maricopa county Republican party is at this link <https://maricopagop.org/> You can find the ones for Pima and other counties by googling it!!

Volunteer to work for (or donate to) advocacy groups of your choice. Google their name, but some of that work has been done for you and below you will find links to some of the best known liberal and conservative advocacy groups. (If you know of one you'd like added to this list, send it to me via e mail: legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org)!

Civic Engagement Beyond Voting is a progressive advocacy group that has identified specific AZ legislative candidates to support. It is hosting [weekly statewide phone banks](#) for its preferred candidates (and for

good candidates *running against* the legislators they don't support). A person can participate from wherever they live. Here's the link: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgxwJXLfrBRFCjLVKmdMSkrfspQk>
[B](#)

- **What if I just want to help “get out the vote” (GOTV)?** (If you have information on other non partisan GOTV groups, please e mail me at legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org.)

UU the Vote. This is an Arizona Unitarian Universalist initiative sponsored by UUJAZ to help get out the vote; with many volunteer opportunities, events, candidate forums, etc. <https://www.uuthevote.org/get-involved/>

Vote Forward - <https://votefwd.org/> Vote Forward is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization. It began as an experiment conducted by Scott Forman in Alabama in 2017. Encouraged by the success of that test, Scott and a small group of friends and fellow [Opower](#) alumni built a software platform to empower volunteers to take easy and effective action. “We believe our democracy depends on everyone participating, so we volunteered our time and expertise to achieve that goal,” the web site says. The project focuses on volunteers who actually WRITE LETTERS to voters, urging them to vote.

Your county recorder’s office MAY have a GOTV initiative. Here are some links to find out.

Maricopa County: <https://recorder.maricopa.gov/>

Pima County: <https://recorder.pima.gov/>

Yavapai County: <https://www.yavapai.us/recorder>

Find all the other county recorders at this link: <https://azsos.gov/county-election-info>

Action Opportunity: Help stop spread of Covid-19 in Prisons. Valley Interfaith Project is leading an initiative to help protect the health of prison inmates. Here’s how you can help: <http://www.valleyinterfaithprojectaz.com/>

Advocacy Groups (liberal and conservative) that endorse candidates:

Planned Parenthood: Advocacy for women's reproductive rights

<https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/planned-parenthood-advocates-arizona/blog/ppaas-2020-candidate-endorsements-5-months-to-election-day-2>

Equality Arizona: advocacy for gay/lesbian rights <https://www.equalityarizona.org/elections>

Sierra Club: environmental advocacy <https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce/grand-canyon-chapter/election/2020%20guide%20color%207-20.pdf>

Small Business PAC: business oriented <https://www.nfib.com/content/news/arizona/small-business-pac-announces-primary-election-endorsements/>

Arizona Stand for Children endorsements: children's advocacy <http://stand.org/arizona/blog/announcing-our-2020-candidate-endorsements>

Candidate Information (general) <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/> type in a candidate's name and get information on them, including endorsements from various groups

Center for Arizona Policy (a far right, religious-oriented advocacy group)
<https://azaction.org/2020endorsements/>

National Organization for Women (Arizona) A progressive women's rights group.
<https://aznow.org/>

NARAL Arizona a pro-choice women's advocacy group
<https://www.prochoiceamerica.org/state/arizona/>

Tea Party Patriots a conservative advocacy groups with many local chapters List of all tea party groups in Arizona <https://www.prochoiceamerica.org/state/arizona/>

Arizona General Election: Candidates for Federal Office

U.S. Senate – Mark Kelly is unopposed for the Democratic nomination and Martha McSally is facing Daniel McCarthy and a write in candidate for the Republican. For the Libertarian party, Barry Hess is running against Alan White.

You can get information about the candidates here: <https://www.azcleaselections.gov/arizona-elections/find-my-candidates>

U.S. House of Representatives – Currently, Arizona has five Democrats and four Republicans representing the state in the U.S. House. Not sure which district you are in? Find out here: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

U.S. Congressional Seats

District 1 - Tom O'Halleran (D, I) won easily over Eva Putzova and will face Tiffany Shedd (R). District is huge; covers more than half the state from the northern border, wraps around the east edge of phoenix, south for miles.

District 2 – Ann Kirkpatrick, (D, I) won easily and will face Brandon Martin who defeated two Republicans for the R nomination. Far southeastern Arizona and most of Tucson.

District 3 – Raul Grijalva (D, I) has no Republican opposition in the fall. Southwestern Arizona.

District 4 – Delina DiSanto (D) won easily and will face incumbent Republican Paul Gosar in the fall. He also won easily. Western Arizona/

District 5 – Joan Green (D) beat two candidates with slightly more than half the votes and will be up againy Republican incumbent Andy Biggs. Southeast East Phoenix area.

District 6 – Hiral Tipirnin won easily and will face Republican incumbent David Schweikert. Northest Phoenix metro area.

District 7 – Ruben Gallego was unopposed for the Democratic nomination and will face Josua Barnett in the fall, in this safe Democratic district. Southwest Phoenix metro area.

District 8 – Michael Muscato won the Democratic nomination and will face Republican incumbent Debbie Lesko in November. Northwest Phoenix metro area.

District 9 – Democratic Greg Stanton, Democratic incumbent, was unopposed and will face challenger, Dave Giles, who defeated two other Republican candidates. Phoenix.

Arizona Corporation Commission The Arizona corporation commission is a regulatory agency for non municipal utility companies – energy, heat, trash, water, and communication firms. As such, it is in a central position regarding environmental issues including solar energy

and utility rate regulations. There are five seats, and three are vacant. Each party has put up three candidates for these seats, so even though the primary in each party is uncontested (you can vote for up to three candidates), the contest in the general election will be important and hotly contested.

Democratic primary candidates (vote for up to three)

- [William Mundell](#)
- [Shea Stanfield](#)
- [Anna Tovar](#)

Republican primary candidates (vote for up to three)

- [Lea Marquez Peterson](#) (Incumbent)
- [Eric Sloan](#)
- [James O'Connor](#) (Write-in)

State Legislative Contests (data from AZ Central: <https://www.azcleelections.gov/arizona-elections/find-my-candidates> or <https://apps.arizona.vote/electioninfo/elections/2020-primary-election/legislative/2441/17/0>)

Not sure what district you are in? Find out here: <https://azredistricting.org/districtlocator/>

Arizona State Senate – Currently, there are 17 Republicans and 13 Democrats in the Arizona State Senate. In the 2020 general election, the Democrats would need to flip 3 seats to gain control.

Republican Contested Primaries for AZ Senate: (Write-in candidates not listed)

- District 6 – Sylvia Allen, (incumbent) lost to challenger Wendy Rogers
- District 15 – Heather Carter (incumbent) lost to Nancy Barto
- District 22 – David Livingston defeated Vince DiCarlo and Hop Nguyen
- District 23 – Michelle Ugenti-Rita (incumbent) defeated Alexander Kolodin

Democratic Contested Primaries for AZ Senate: (Write-in candidates not listed)

District 11 – Joanna Mendoza defeated Linda Patterson and will face Republican incumbent Vince Leach

District 24 – Lela Alston (incumbent) defeated two challengers.

District 26 – Juan Mendez (incumbent) won.

Arizona House of Representatives – Currently, there are 31 Republicans and 29 Democrats. The Democrats would need to flip 2 seats to gain control. Here's the winners. Since voters can choose two candidates in each district, the primary is considered contested only if there are three or more candidates.

Republican Contested Primaries for Arizona House:

District 1 – Five Republican candidates competed and the winners are Judy Burges and Quang Nguyen.

District 8 - David Cook (incumbent) won and the second seat apparently has been won by Frank Pratt who defeated Neal Carter by about 40 votes.

District 13 - Tim Dunn (i) and Joanne Osborne (i) won the two seats against Steve Montenegro

District 15 - Steve Kaiser and Justin Wilmeth won the two seats.

District 16 - John Fillmore (incumbent) and Jacqueline Parker won the two slots

District 21 Kevin Payne (incumbent) and Beverly Pingerelli won the two slots.

District 23 Incumbents John Kavanagh won by Jay Lawrence apparently has lost by about 800 votes.

District 25 - Russell Bowers and Michelle Udall, incumbents, won.

District 29 – Three Republicans were competing to run against the Democrats in the general election: Billy Bragg and Helen Fokszanskyj-Conti won the two nominations.\

Democratic Candidates for Arizona House

District 2 - Daniel Hernandez Jr. (incumbent is running again and Andrea Dalessandro won the other slot.

District 3 – Incumbents Andres Cano and Alma Hernandez won.

District 10 - Domingo DeGrazia (incumbent) is competing for one of the two seats and along with Stephanie Stahl Hamilton are the Democratic nominees.

District 19 – Incumbents Diego Espinoza and Lorenzo Sierra won.

District 26- Athena Salman (incumbent) won one seat and Melody Hernandez the other.

District 27 – Two incumbents won renomination: Reginald Bolding and Diego Rodriguez. They were being challenged by Catherine H. Miranda

District 29 - Richard Andrade and Cesar Chavez incumbents won against Teddy Castro

Voting Your Values: Climate Change

Here is an opportunity to support climate action by making a pledge to Vote with Climate and Creation in Mind this Fall. Vote for candidates who support and advocate for Climate Action to preserve our Mother Earth. Please click the link below to pledge to consistently vote with the climate in mind:

<https://www.azipl.org/pledge-to-be-a-faith-climate-voter/> When you are finished making the pledge, please send a quick note to Jerry Waters at jerwat711@gmail.com stating that you have made the pledge. Since UU's Seventh Principle is "respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part", this should be one of the easiest decisions you will ever make.

Update on Covid-19

Now that Arizona and almost every state is relaxing its “stay at home” orders, it is incumbent upon each of us to stay safe and to keep everyone we come in contact with safe, too. Just because restaurants can now serve in their dining room, or others are not wearing masks, does not mean we individually need to relax our own health-protective measures.

Here’s Arizona’s Re-infection Covid-19 rate (the number of other persons estimated to be infected by each currently infected person). If the rate is greater than one, then the virus is expanding, if the number of less than one, the virus is retracting.

These numbers are found at <https://rt.live/> and part of the problem is that the analysts are constantly updating all of their figures and making adjustments on the impact of increased testing and newly categorized cases! So, the data change.

3/24 – 1.36

3/31 – 1.07

4/7 - 1.02

4/15 – .92

4/22 - .89

4/29 - .93

5/5 - 1.00

Reopening Started

5/12 - 1.22

Shelter in place ended

5/19 - 1.21

5/26 – 1.24

6/2 – 1.17

6/9 – 1.13

6/16 – 1.06

6/26 – .97

7/3 - .97

7/12 - .90

7/21 - .84

8/6 - .84

Here are three exceptionally good, scientifically-based analyses that are worth reading. For your convenience, I extracted from them some of the most salient points and you can read that in an earlier AZ Legislative Alert: : <http://files.vuu.org/uujaz/2019/alert-051220.pdf>

RISKS Know Them, Avoid them. <https://www.erinbromage.com/post/the-risks-know-them-avoid-them> - Dr. Erin Bromage is an Associate Professor of biology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. This article reviews dozens (maybe hundreds) of research studies of how corona 19 spreads.

All about masks. <https://www.datamotion.com/category/blog/> - This information is a blog written by Peter Tippett, MD, PhD. Tippett is Chairman of the DataMotion Board of Directors and currently serves as the CEO of careMESH. The blog was originally published on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/saving-your-health-one-mask-time-peter-tippett-md-phd/>

R_t scores State by state: How fast is the virus still spreading?¹ <https://rt.live/> These are up-to-date values for R_t, a key measure of how fast the virus is growing. **It's the average number of people who become infected by an infectious person. If R_t is above 1.0, the virus will spread quickly. When R_t is below 1.0, the virus will stop spreading.**

Resources: [How to use Request to Speak](#) [How to use Resist.Bot](#) [Contacts](#) [Action](#)

[To see the full digest of bills from the 2020 legislative session, go to the PDF: <http://files.vuu.org/uujaz/2019/alert-040320digest.pdf>). The House could decide to take up some of their own that were ready for a full vote as an attempt to persuade the Senate to come back into session.

Why can R_t be going down when total number of cases testing positive is going up? Because we are testing more people, and as more people are tested, there will be more positive cases! If we had random samples of people that had been tested, we would know that the population of all people is comprised of

- the number tested positive who are infected and showing symptoms;
- the number tested positive who are asymptomatic (this is estimated to be about xxxx% higher than those with symptoms; and
- the number tested who are negative (this is estimated to be about xxxxx% higher than those with symptoms who tested positive.)

And, from these data, the estimates of how many total people in the population would be positive if everyone were tested.

Then R at time 1 is the total number of estimated positives (actual number of people with symptoms testing positive at time 1 plus estimated number asymptomatic who were not tested and number negative who were not tested). R at time 2 is the same formula. Then, R_t is the difference between time 1 and time 2. So, if the total number of positives at time 1 is 1,000 and the total number at time 2 (say a week later) is 2000, then the R_t is 2.0. If the R at time 2 is 500, then R_t is .5.

Become a Deputy Registrar, help Get Out the Vote 2020 (postponed, but keep this in mind).

¹ <https://techcrunch.com/2020/04/18/instagram-founders-rt-live/>. These data are compiled by Instagram founders Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger

If you live in Maricopa County, you can become a “deputy Registrar” and get regular updates on how you can help GOTV (get out the vote) in 2020. Once trained, you will get regular updates on where and when volunteers are needed to help insure that every eligible person is registered and able to vote in 2020. Additional dates are listed as well: www.tinyurl.com/DRClass20.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Governor [602-542-4331](tel:602-542-4331) , or [e-mail](#).

Name

	Phone	Fax	
Senator Martha McSally (R- AZ)	202 224-2235	202 228-2862	contact@mcsally.senate.gov
Senator Kyrsten Sinema (D- AZ)	224-4521	226-4386	contact@sinema.senate.gov
Rep Tom O’Halloran (D – 01)	225-3361	225-3462	https://ohalleran.house.gov/contact
Rep Ann Kirkpatrick (D – 02)	225-2542	225-0378	https://kirkpatrick.house.gov/contact
Rep Raul M. Grijalva (D – 03)	225-2435	225-1541	https://grijalva.house.gov/connect-with-raul
Rep Paul A. Gosar (R – 04)	225-2315	226-9739	https://gosar.house.gov/contact-me/email-me
Rep Andy Biggs (R – 05)	225-2635	226-4386	https://biggs.house.gov/contact
Rep David Schweikert (R – 06)	225-2190	225-0096	https://schweikert.house.gov/contact-form
Rep Ruben Gallego (D – 07)	225-4065	225-1655	https://rubengallego.house.gov/contact
Rep Debbie Lesko (R – 08)	225-4576	225-6328	https://lesko.house.gov/contact/
Rep Greg Stanton (D – 09)	225-9888	225-9731	https://stanton.house.gov/contact

U.S. Senate –

- **Kyrsten Sinema** - 825B&C Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-4521
Phoenix Phone: 602-598-7327 **Email:** contact@sinema.senate.gov
- Martha McSally** _B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-2235
Email: contact@mcsally.senate.gov

Request to Speak – This is a way to “be heard” at the legislature without being there at all! But, first, you must be signed up. If you have signed up in the past, your old information will still get you in. If not, then go to the capitol, go to the first floor of senate or house buildings, 1700 W. Washington, and use the computer to sign up. There are people there to help you. Then, here’s how to use it there or from your phone or your computer at home:

- Get the # of the bill – You can get it from this newsletter.
- On the azleg.gov site <https://www.azleg.gov/> click on Legislative Information, then on Request to Speak
- Click on “new request” (on the menu on the left)
- Put in the bill #. (or put in name of a committee, and hit “search” to see the committee’s upcoming agenda and choose the bill #)
- You should get a message (scroll down if needed). If it says “no active agenda” then it isn’t before a committee. If you want to register your opinion anyway, click on “my bill positions” (on the menu on the left), and indicate yes or no on the bill.
- If it is before a committee, (scroll down a little to see) it will ask if you actually want to speak at the committee hearing (probably not, just click “no”) and then register for/against and put in your comment if you want.

If you want to review the bill, click on “documents” and review the bill itself or the House or Senate “fact sheet.”

- Use Resistbot to [text your state lawmakers!](#) Text STATE to 50409 to try it out.

Resistbot.io - How to use it. Click on the “messages” icon on your I-phone, then click on the pencil in the top right-hand corner. You will get a “To: “ screen. Put in 504-09 and then in the message type “resist.” They will respond and ask for your zip code or address and what you want to do. This is a free service, reportedly developed by volunteers. It will ask for your zip code or address, and then you can send a fax, letter, make a phone call, send an e-mail to Sen. Sinema and McSally and the House member as well or even to Governor Ducey.

They will call you back and connect you each Senators office.

After you have sent several, it will ask you which of the various people you want it sent to. At first, it just sends to all three, later it will add state-level elected officials, too. You get more services after you’ve used it awhile!

[Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation](#) –

Anne L. Schneider, Ph.D. is a member of the Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation. VUU’s staff includes Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette; Music Director, Katie Seifert; Director of Faith Formation, Marci Beaudoin. VUU is located at 6400 W. Del Rio Drive, Chandler, AZ 480 899 4249 VUU holds services at 10:30 to 11:30 on Sunday. Currently, by zoom! Contact the office to get the zoom link.