

DONKEY TRACKS

AUGUST, 2026

#bluetothecore

Visit our web site at:

www.womensdemo.com

Women's Democratic Club of Clark County



@womensdemocc



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Inspirationalist



Women's DEMOCRATIC CLUB — OF CLARK COUNTY —

Luncheon Program Celebration of
**WOMEN'S
EQUALITY DAY**

★★★
Honoring women who have
extraordinary
contributions to our
community and state.

HONORING OUR 2026 HONOREES

 Dr. Tricia Braxton	 Assembly Member Hanadi Nadeem	 Dr. Rev. Marta Schmitt	 Natalia Jordan <i>recipient of the Thalia Dondero Trailblazer award</i>
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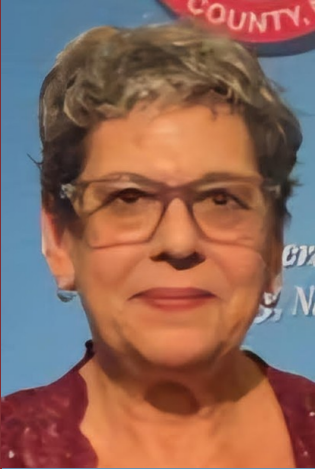
EQUALITY. OPPORTUNITY. PROGRESS.
Stronger Together.

 **THURSDAY,
AUGUST 13TH**
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

 **TUSCANY
SUITES & CASINO**

— Empowering Women. Strengthening Democracy. —
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER.

President's Message



Our Annual BBQ was a huge success. Many thanks to Assembly Member Shea Backus and her husband, Marc McDermont for hosting. Marc's culinary talents are superb! If you couldn't make it, we had a surprise guest, former Arizona Congresswoman, Gabby Giffords. What an inspiration she is.

Let's support Women's Demo by attending our Spotlight Dinner, "Stronger Together," on Saturday, September 5th. Tickets will be available on our website. Let's fill the "Wine Barrel" to be auctioned at the Event. Please bring your wine donation to our August lunch meeting.

See you there!

"SHOWCASE A BARREL OF WINE" A SILENT AUCTION SUPER ITEM

Bring To The Next Meeting

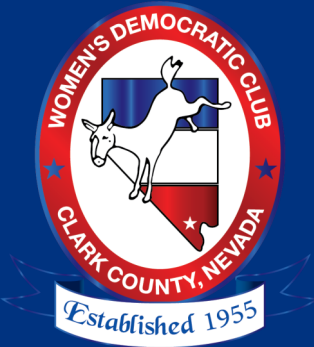


Use this **LINK** to contact us to pick-up your bottle of wine
or
Bring your bottle(s) and we will collect all wine donations, which will be beautifully displayed in a decorative barrel as one of the featured Silent Auction items at our

"Spotlight Dinner" on
Saturday Evening, September 5, 2026
6:00 p.m. - Reception/Silent Auction
7:00 p.m. - Dinner/Program
The Westgate Resort & Hotel
3000 Paradise Road * Las Vegas * NV * 89104

The highest bidder gets all the wine!

Women's Democratic Club of Clark County



CELEBRATING WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Honorees:

*Dr. Tricia Braxton
Assembly Member Hanadi Nadeem
Marta Schmitt*

2026 Recipient of the Thalia Dondero Trailblazer Award
Natalia Jordan

MC

Congresswoman Dina Titus

**We Are Awarding The Recipients Of
The Renee Diamond Scholarship Fund and
The Carol Chesnut Law Scholarship Fund**

Date: Thursday, August 13 2026

**Place: Tuscany Suites & Casino/2nd Floor, Tuscany Room
255 East Flamingo Road, LV, NV 89169**

Time: 11:30 a.m. - Registration; Noon—1:00 p.m.- Luncheon/Program

Members = \$35 - Non-Members = \$40

RSVP [HERE](#) To Pay Online

RSVP [HERE](#) To Reserve Ticket and Pay At Door



Women's Democratic Club of Clark County

2026 Spotlight Dinner - "Stronger Together"

Saturday Evening, September 5, 2026

6:00 pm - Reception/Silent Auction

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Dinner & Program

Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino

3000 Paradise Road, LV, NV 89109

Ballrooms, C-F

Hon. Miriam Shearing

Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award

Honoring

Margie Gonzales

Senator Roberta Lange

Marie Ray Scott

Ashley Lovell

Recipient of the Bonnie Bryan Award

Julie-Ann Peebles

Recipient of the Francis Perkins Award

Join us for an evening of celebration as we recognize outstanding individuals whose leadership, service, advocacy, and commitment have strengthened our community and advanced Democratic values. Together, we honor those who inspire us and reaffirm our commitment to building a stronger future—because we are always **"Stronger Together."**



Ad Book Pricing

Outside Back Page of Program Booklet	\$1,500	8.5" x 11" - 4 = page color ad
Inside Front Page of Program Booklet	\$1,250	8.5" x 11" - 4 = page color ad
Inside Back Page of Program Booklet	\$1,250	8.5" x 11" - 4 = page color ad
Full Page Ad	\$ 900	8.5" x 11" - 4 = page color ad
Half Page Ad	\$ 500	5.5" x 11" - 4 = page color ad
Quarter Page Ad	\$ 250	4.25" x 2.75" - 4 = page color ad

1/8" Bleed On All Ads

300 DPI Resolution/Jpg or Pdf Format

Email to: womensdemoclarkcounty@gmail.com

All Ads Must Be In By Friday, August 21, 2026

Platinum Sponsorship = \$10,000

- Front row center tickets for table of 10
- Online link to your website from the Women's Demo's Website up to 90 days post event
- Full page, 4-color ad in program book
- Individual poster at event recognizing your sponsorship
- Recognition from dais

Host Sponsorship = \$5,000

- Tickets for table of 10
- Online link to your website from the Women's Demo's Website up to 30 days post event
- Full page, 4-color ad in program book
- Individual poster at event recognizing your sponsorship
- Recognition from dais

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP = \$3,500

- Tickets for table of 10
- Full page, 4-color ad in program book
- Listed on group poster of sponsors
- Recognition from dais

TABLE OF 10 = \$2,000

- Tickets for table of 10
- Half page, 4-color ad

TABLE OF 5 = \$1,000

- Tickets for 5 people at same table
- Quarter page, 4-color ad

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

General Admission = \$175

Members only = \$150

Members only plus one = \$300

Use [This Link](#) On Our Website To Pay Online
or

Mail Check Payable To:

Women's Democratic Club of Clark County
("WDC")

PO Box 34105

Las Vegas, NV 89133

Voter Protection & Integrity



Guest Speaker
Secretary of State



Cisco Aguilar

Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026

Place: Tuscany Suites, Tuscany Room, 2nd Floor

255 East Flamingo Road, LV, NV 89169

Use 2nd Portico (West Side), Park Free, Use Elavator

Extra Parking In Back Lot

Time: 11:30 a.m.-Registration; Noon - Luncheon/Program

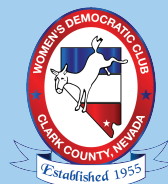
Members- \$35 * Non-Members - \$40

Pay Online [HERE](#)

If You Plan To Pay At The Door

RSVP [HERE](#)

All Registered Democrats Are Welcome to Attend



OPINION: fifty Years After The Bicentennial, It's A Good Day To Set Cynicism Aside

By John L. Smith



The United States Bicentennial summer of 1976 found me daydreaming of the big leagues and my first girlfriend from behind the wheel of a dented '68 Toyota Corona.

The Vietnam War and Watergate scandal were in America's rearview mirror along with stagflation, "Whip Inflation Now!" buttons and an economic recession. At 16, I was just another distracted Las Vegas kid trying to navigate the world, but the elaborate buildup to the [official celebration](#) of America's adoption of the Declaration of Independence shook me into a conscious state.

It was hard for many to love the country whose leaders had faltered and whose ideals had failed them, but even its fiercest critics found ways to admire the celebration as it picked up steam.

More than the colorful parades and newly minted Bicentennial quarters and commemorative stamps, New York Harbor was filled with international ships and more than a dozen spectacular tall sailing craft; the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage led by volunteers made its way to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania; the American Freedom Train traveled more than 25,000 miles to bring the nation's historic documents to we the people.

Those big league and girlfriend dreams eventually faded. But looking back, I don't remember a single event feeling segregated along political lines or religious ones, for that matter. Republican President Gerald R. Ford made a point of setting a grand welcome after so much strife. It was a high point in his abbreviated term as president.

One look at our nation's foot-dragging civil rights record and at times misguided foreign policy made us an easy target for critics. The brilliant orator and former slave Frederick Douglass is noted for calling slavery our country's "original sin," but I would also add our mistreatment of Indigenous peoples to the top of the list of deep transgressions.

Despite our many character faults — egotistical bluster not least — we remained the place to be with a Statue of Liberty that symbolized something special to the rest of the world. International dignitaries took time in the summer of '76 to honor the United States, I suspect, without many arms twisted or tongues held. The Bicentennial summer was a reminder even to the cynics of the best of America.

Suffice to say the last half century has had more than its share of civil tumult, political scandal and avoidable military conflict. Polls tell us our [trust in government](#) and [level of optimism](#) in our future have reached new lows. Like so much else in the era of President Donald Trump, it reflects the words and actions of the man who continues to literally and metaphorically take a wrecking ball to the White House.

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His administration's hyperpartisanship and ineptitude have even managed to sully the 250th anniversary celebration, a moment that cries out for common ground, community and a coming together as a nation. The president's unabashed glorification of greed is unprecedented. It's as if [Gordon Gekko](#) won the White House.

By making [the celebration](#) mostly about himself, as reflected in his politically themed traveling road show and [prolific use of his own likeness](#) on public buildings, he increasingly plays the role of a spray-tanned Big Brother. Now exposed almost daily for [lining his own family's pockets](#), he's destined to be remembered as America's authoritarian grifter-in-chief.

Even with all that, and I admit that's a lot, it doesn't mean we should write off the nation's 250th celebration — maybe if only for the sake of taking time to count our blessings.

These days it is a common refrain that you can't get Americans to agree on anything. Not even leaving religion out of politics and keeping pineapple off pizza. With that in mind, here's an anecdote.

On Wednesday at Costco, an American experience if ever there was one, I pushed my cart through crowded aisles stacked high with audacious abundance. The crush of customers was a reminder of the broad ethnic diversity that's the true strength of our country.

Somewhere between the piles of produce and the laundry detergent aisle, I shared laughs with strangers who were also lost in the Costco maze. News reports all week had been recounting the [wide-eyed disbelief](#) expressed by World Cup fans from distant lands at the scale of the American shopping experience.

"They couldn't believe how big everything is," one man said, "and how much is available."

I was heartened by our collective acknowledgment that, for all our flaws, we are fortunate to live in such a place. Our country remains a land of plenty — even if not everyone shares in it.

I went home and unfurled the flag a couple days early, if only to remind myself that the country belongs to no president or corporate cabal, but to all of us: the courageous ancestors we never knew and — most importantly — the future generations we will not live to meet.

John L. Smith is an author and longtime columnist. He was born in Henderson and his family's Nevada roots go back to 1881. His stories have appeared in New Lines, Time, Reader's Digest, Rolling Stone, The Daily Beast, Reuters and Desert Companion, among others.

DANIELE MONROE-MORENO

for North Las Vegas

MAYOR

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ALEX PERESZLENYI

FOR NV Assembly District 29

A Democrat born and raised here in
your neighborhood fighting for YOU
not corporations or the
"Political Status Quo"

Take Nevada Back
Alex will stand up to Donald
Trump, ICE, Joe Lombardo, and
stop corporate handouts

Invest in a Fair Economy
Make corporations pay their fair
share and stop energy companies
like NV Energy from price gouging

Affordable Housing
Stop corporate home ownership,
cap rent increases, and hold
bad landlords accountable

GET INVOLVED: ALEXFORNEVADA.COM

ALEX PERESZLENYI

FOR NV Assembly District 29

Let's Take Nevada Back!

**Primary Election Day
JUNE 9th**

VOTE BY MAIL OR IN-PERSON

**Early Voting
MAY 23rd-JUNE 5th**

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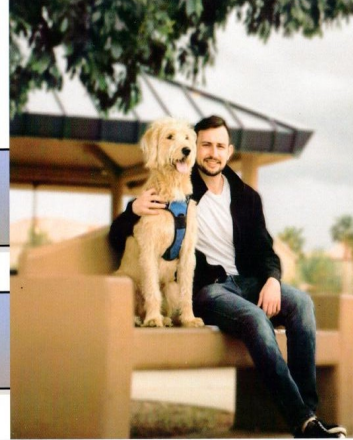
VOLUNTEER!



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Memos From Morgan

By Morgan St. James

IT'S TIME FOR DEMOCRATS TO PLAY HARDBALL

Trump And The Magas Are Totally Out Of Control



Every time we think this can't possibly get worse— it does. This past month has been a tragic illustration of the cruelty and corruption of the current administration. Everything we considered normal has gone to Hell in a handbasket.

Thankfully, there are some strong voices in the House and Senate, but sadly not enough. This is a time when every elected Democrat has to have the courage to stand up for our country, our Constitution and what has allowed us to become the most powerful country in the world during the past 250 years. It is a time to inspire Independents and Republicans who believe in the welfare of our country to speak out. Use their votes to help defeat the self-serving, money-grabbing, fearful members of their party. Those fearful members and corporations are being controlled in a manner befitting a Mafia boss, but even Mafia bosses had a code.

What is happening in our country now is beyond comprehension. The 2026 midterms won't just be an election. In every sense of the word when Trump fails in every diversionary tactic he employs to cancel the midterms, they will be a rescue mission. We can't play defensively any longer. It doesn't work when you are up against opponents like Trump and his MAGAs who will use every underhanded, often illegal, method they can to win, no matter the cost in integrity and dollars. Democratic leaders must finally step out from the shadows, because that is the only path to restoration of the country we love. They can't just plan to win. They must have a plan and the determination and courage to fight fire with fire in order to carry it out and rebuild the very soul of the country.

In addition to the politicians, the media is strongly accountable for broadcasting unverified claims and capitulating to the demands of Trump. The first crack in that foundation was when broadcast media refused to air the latest Trump rant disguised as breaking news. Even Fox cut it short. We need more of that. The more you hear lies presented as truth, the more people are convinced they must be true. The result is a loyal following like MAGA who only believe propaganda and do no further research to verify claims. Thank goodness for cable news and broadcasters with old school integrity like Scott MacFarlan, Meidas Touch and other hardworking cable shows.

There are a few names that stand out in the Senate and House—representatives of the people who suggest logical approaches through legislation. Long time Senator Elizabeth Warren comes to mind. CNBC reported her proposed road-map for restoration involves passing federal price-gouging laws to lower grocery costs. That can only happen with a majority of votes. She also advocates using the FTC to aggressively break up monopolies in the tech and pharmaceutical sectors, which could end corporate capture for good. No more quid pro quo—contribute to me and you'll get special considerations.

Governor Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania is pushing for a federal version of his Pennsylvania model of cutting taxes for working families while significantly increasing funding for vocational training and police recruitment through his Shapiro Foundation. An illustration contrary to Trump and MAGA propaganda to prove that Democrats can handle both the economy and public safety.

This is a name not often heard—Leader of the Hispanic Caucus, Adriano Espaillat, Representative from New York. He insists the party must immediately take whatever strong steps they can to end mass deportation tactics. It is important to create a clear, streamlined pathway to citizenship for long-term undocumented residents and Dreamers. The current ICE tactics involve rounding up even legal immigrants like cattle and placing them in horrible detention centers or deporting them to countries they have no connection to. Firing Kristy Noem and replacing her with MarkWayne Mullin didn't stop this practice. It just isn't as up front in the media. And, innocent people have been killed by ICE agents. There are several more, but it is time for those backbones to stiffen—time to say no more and not back down!

Our capitol is being destroyed by Trump and his compulsion to put his signature tacky decorating instincts on everything possible while he uses the Treasury like a personal piggy bank. Our military is told by former alcoholic Fox News personality who now relishes his title Secretary of War, that men over 30 will now have mandatory testosterone testing while the illegal war in Iran rages on with billions spent, massive destruction and loss of lives every day.

Public opinion must be bombarded with the facts—not a bunch of softball questions and tolerance of unprecedented violations of our Constitution. Our hope lies in a strong and united Democratic party and with qualified voters including Democrats, Republicans and Independents who refuse to bend to the threats posed by this administration.



Former interior designer MORGAN ST. JAMES, lives in Las Vegas with her rescue dog Cucumber and has been writing for over twenty years. She has 21 books in publication and over 600 published articles on diverse subjects. Morgan has appeared on radio, podcasts, television and author's panels. Her books include the Silver Sisters Mysteries series co-authored with her real life sister Phyllice Bradner, the Revenge is Fun series, stand-alone novels, the Writers' Tricks of the Trade book and short stories in six Chicken Soup for the Soul books. Morgan co-authored the multi award-winning memoirs: Rob and Cheryl Cuccio's Incest, Murder and a Miracle and Bella Capo's No More Crying Angels.

Joanne's Journal

By Joanne Gilbert



Celebrating Women's Voices of Valor!

(1924/Dombrovitza, Poland—2015/W. Bloomfield, Michigan)



"I only survived because of my youth and plain good luck!"

Elegantly attired, with thick, impeccably styled strawberry-blonde hair framing her still-youthful face, 89-year-old Manya Feldman sat gracefully on the shaded veranda of the Fleischman Retirement Residence in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Nothing in her appearance suggested that, during the Nazi occupation of Poland, this lovely woman had been a fierce teenage partisan who fought Nazis in the dense Polish forests and helped blow up train tracks as Nazi trains crossed bridges.

Ever alert, she spotted my car entering the crowded parking lot before I had even met her. Despite the 95-degree heat and 95% humidity of a Michigan July, she appeared composed, watchful, and ready to speak with a stranger about deeply personal, searingly painful experiences.

Greeting me with a warm hug, Manya immediately asked whether I had found the residence easily, whether I was thirsty, too hot, or too cold in the air-conditioning. She was the perfect hostess—treating me as if I were the important person, rather than the other way around.

She was charming, competent, confident, and unmistakably in charge. Had we been surrounded by Nazis in a frigid Polish forest, she was exactly the person I would have wanted to follow.

In fact, I already was following her.

Briskly pushing her walker and her small oxygen tank, she led me through the bustling lobby to a private meeting room, her eyes scanning the surroundings as she greeted friends, made introductions, and pointed out small details—a piece of art, a bird habitat, a notice for an upcoming field trip.

Once seated, and having assured herself that I was comfortable, she began her story as if we were having an ordinary conversation. Within a few sentences, the clean, well-equipped, modern building in which we safely sat—along with nearly three-quarters of a century—seemed to fade away.

In its place was a filthy, cold room in a primitive, brutally overcrowded ghetto. And I was suddenly listening to the voice of a terrified, confused Jewish girl who, along with her family and the rest of her town's 4000+ Jewish inhabitants, had just been forced from their homes. Taking only what they could carry, they silently trudged toward a terrifying unknown: the Dombrovitz ghetto.

The next three years would take Manya through horrors that still defy the imagination. Alongside her Soviet partisan comrades, she learned to survive, to fight, and to maintain her humanity against the Germans and their collaborators in Poland's dense forests.

As she continued speaking, that shaky teenage voice transformed into the strong voice of an indomitable young woman who had made heart-rending decisions on a moment's notice, faced death daily, and survived dangers that, for far too many others, proved unsurvivable.

In 2026, Manya's story reminds us that Women of Valor are not confined to history; they are models of moral courage for this moment right now, when democracy, dignity, and human decency again demand vigilance and resolve. Please join me next month, when I'll take you deeper into Manya Feldman's extraordinary journey—from danger and loss to resistance, survival, and enduring witness.

About Joanne:

Since 2005, following a 35-year career in education, I was fortunate to be able to begin pursuing my lifelong dream of finding, interviewing, writing about, and celebrating the now very elderly women, who as girls, had actively and successfully defied the Nazis and their collaborators during the Holocaust. My first book, "WOMEN OF VALOR: Polish Jewish Resisters to the Third Reich," was published in 2018. My second book, "A VICTORY FOR MIRIAM! The Little Jewish Girl Who Defied the Nazis," was published in 2019. My 2024 intergenerational Holocaust Education play, "VOICES OF VALOR!", has been performed to outstanding reviews. Performances are available to organizations by request. My third book, "WOMEN OF VALOR: Anti-Nazi Resistance in France," is currently in progress. I welcome the opportunity to do in-person or Zoom book talks, make presentations about anti-Nazi Resistance, and to arrange for performances of "VOICES OF VALOR!". Please contact me at: info@joannedgilbert.com or 650-345-5322.

JOANNE D. GILBERT

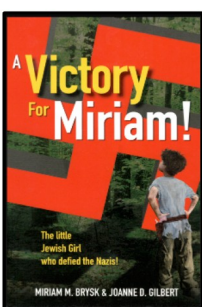
Author, Playwright, Educator, Public Speaker

WOMEN OF VALOR: Polish Jewish Resisters to the Third Reich (2018)
A VICTORY FOR MIRIAM: The Little Jewish Girl Who Defied the Nazis! (2019)
VOICES OF VALOR: Student-Centered Holocaust Education (2024)
WOMEN OF VALOR: Anti-Nazi Resistance in France (2025)

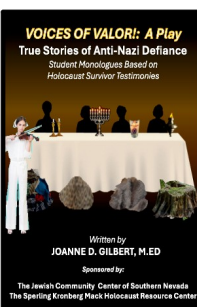
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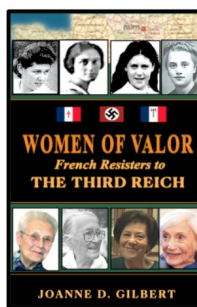
2018



2019



2024



2025

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District Court Judge, Dept. 31



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Erica is a first-generation college graduate, a former teacher and the daughter of a Filipino immigrant. She is:

- **INVESTING IN EDUCATION** by passing the largest education budget in the state's history and increasing teacher pay.
- **PROTECTING A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE IN NEVADA** from extremist attacks.
- **LOWERING THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.**
- **FIGHTING FOR EXPANDED HOUSING OPTIONS** in East Las Vegas and throughout our state.
- **WORKING TO INCREASE LANGUAGE ACCESS**, including more options for multilingual ballots as well as prescription drug labels being provided in a patient's language of preference.

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FOR NEVADA ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 14

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DEMOCRAT

ERICA MOSCA
FOR NEVADA ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 14

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Elect **Danielle TARMU**



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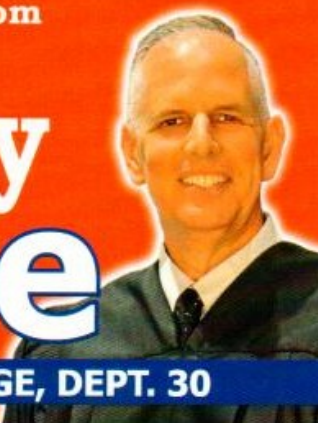
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Re-Elect **Judge Jerry Wiese**



DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, DEPT. 30

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Judge Jerry Wiese

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DONATE



Sharing Our Legacy

By Judy Klein

Our 2026 Annual BBQ brought back so many wonderful memories of years past—families and members gathering together to socialize, swim, enjoy delicious food, and spend a few carefree hours in the warmth of summer.

This year's BBQ was truly exceptional. We welcomed the largest crowd in recent memory, with **103 members and friends** joining us at the beautiful home of Assembly Member Shea Backus and Marc McDermott, where Shea's mother, Sandy, greeted everyone with her warm smile and hospitality.



Marc once again demonstrated his remarkable culinary talents by preparing mouthwatering pulled pork, brisket, hot sausages, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, and coleslaw. Michelle Abney contributed her family's famous potato salad, which quickly became one of the most talked-about dishes of the afternoon. The Women's Democratic Club added fruit trays, chips and dips, a variety of beverages, irresistible desserts, and refreshing fruit platters that were perfect for a hot summer day.

Most importantly, we enjoyed one another's company. Friends caught up, new friendships were made, and for a few precious hours we simply celebrated being together.

The highlight of the afternoon was the visit from former Congresswoman **Gabby Giffords**. She is one of the most gracious, humble, energetic, and inspiring people we have ever had the privilege of welcoming. Gabby is a hugger, and she greeted nearly everyone with a hug and a kiss. She happily posed for photographs with anyone who asked and was extraordinarily generous with her time. Naturally, she received one of our treasured Women's Democratic Club mugs, and she seemed genuinely delighted by the gift.

With Gabby in the room, it was almost possible to forget, if only for a little while, the challenges our nation is facing. The afternoon reminded us how important friendship, community, and hope truly are. We left feeling grateful for the people around us and encouraged by the strength we find in one another.

As our gathering came to a close, many of us returned to the day's national news. Across the country, attention had turned to the FIFA World Cup Final. Spain captured the championship, an accomplishment that deserved to be the sole focus of the celebration. Instead, much of the coverage centered on the conduct of the President of the United States during the post-match ceremony. For many Americans and observers around the world, it was another moment that overshadowed the athletes' achievement and raised questions about the dignity and decorum expected from our nation's highest office.

This kind of behavior has become increasingly familiar, but that does not make it acceptable. The world's attention should have remained on Spain's remarkable victory and the players who earned that championship. Instead, another unnecessary political spectacle competed for the spotlight.

Many Americans are also deeply concerned about broader issues facing our country—rising costs for working families, increasing political division, and questions about whether our democratic institutions are being respected and strengthened. At a time when so many families are simply trying to make ends meet, there is growing frustration over the perception that those in positions of power are enriching themselves while ordinary people struggle.

These concerns are real, and they remind us why civic engagement matters. Democracy depends upon informed citizens who participate, organize, vote, and hold their leaders accountable. The future of our country will not be determined by one individual but by millions of Americans who choose to stand up for the values they believe in.

These concerns are real, and they remind us why civic engagement matters. Democracy depends upon informed citizens who participate, organize, vote, and hold their leaders accountable. The future of our country will not be determined by one individual but by millions of Americans who choose to stand up for the values they believe in.

That is why our theme this year is especially meaningful.

We are Stronger Together.

Let's continue building our communities, supporting one another, electing leaders who share our values, and proving that when we work together, we can meet every challenge before us.



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EARLY VOTE: MAY 23-JUNE 5 • Primary Election: June 9

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3. **ENSURING BASIC NEEDS ARE MET** through programs that provide senior support, food assistance, and access to health care.
4. **FREE MENTAL HEALTH CARE**, including establishing free crisis and long-term mental health services so that people can get real help before tragedies occur.
5. **PUBLIC SAFETY REFORM** by investing in mental health responders, social workers, and crisis intervention teams as well as by fighting for immigration enforcement reforms that protect families.

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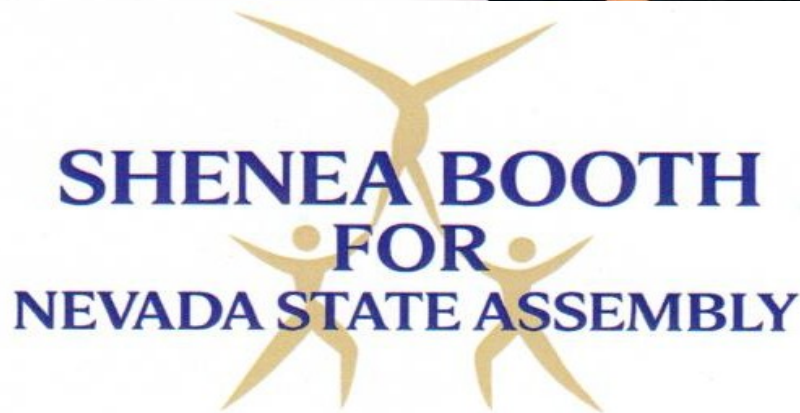
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2025



January

Ashley Delobel
J. Ken Diaz
Claudia Fabian
Attorney General Aaron Ford
Harriet Goldstein
Lance Hendron
Amanda Klein
Matt Lay
Amanda Pellizzari
Staci Walters
Dr. Glynda White
Denise Wright

February

Marilyn Caston
Nancy Downey
Judge Tara Clark-Newberrrt
Pam Jones
Carol Nerby

March

Sunshine Arterburn
Riva Lantaya
Elizabeth Lilly
Melissa Martinet
Tya Mathis-Coleman
Karmen La'Shaun Miller
Virginia "Ginny" Okawa
Judge Jennifer Schwartz

April

Minddie Lloyd
Michelle Sklar

May

Eileen Eady
Amy Reagan
Elaina Smith

June

Shenea Booth
Stephanie Ltkin Goodman
Judge Kerri Maxey
Alex Quagge
Calvin Sandoval
Janet Tweed
Judge Jerry Wiese

July

Brenda Ingariola
Gregory Mitchell
Joyce Patterson Rodgers

August

September

October

November

December 2025

Cecia Alvarado
Jan Biggerstaff
Elizabeth Taylor
Ann Underdahl



Liberty and Justice for All

Join the fight to build a better world.

July 2026 NEWSLETTER

110 Days

until the General Election
Tuesday, November 3rd

Sign Up, Get Involved (Please!)

We need your participation now more than ever. The NV Democratic Coordinated Campaign is helping Democratic candidates win across the state of Nevada. Every weekend, they are hosting TWO canvass launches from multiple places around the city (by Congressional District), and TWO phone banks that you can do on Zoom from the comfort of your home.

These events get Democratic volunteers (that's us!) directly in contact with voters. We need you! No experience is necessary. Please share widely with friends. Sign up at one of the links below:

Weekly Canvass

- [Congressional District 1](#)
- [Congressional District 2](#)
- [Congressional District 3](#)
- [Congressional District 4](#)

[Statewide Phone Bank \(link\)](#)

[Virtual "Know your Rights Training" \(link\)](#)

Keep an eye out for more phone bank, postcard, and canvass opportunities for local Clark County candidates coming up!

I'll serve our community first,
 protect your property rights,
 and lead the Recorder's office
 with integrity."

Tanya



Tanya Flanagan
 for COUNTY RECORDER

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Democrat

DEMOCRAT
Tanya Flanagan

**Experienced Leadership for
 a Stronger Clark County**

Tanya Flanagan is a current Assemblywoman and has over 23 years of service in Clark County government. She'll be able to step into office day one and ensure the Recorder's office is working smoothly for our families and businesses. **You can count on Tanya to:**

- ★ **Protect families from fraud**
- ★ **Protect personal and commercial property rights**
- ★ **Maintain the highest standards of public service**
- ★ **Improve client services** and help local businesses grow
- ★ **Invest in new technology** to keep sensitive information secure

On June 9, Vote Democrat

Tanya Flanagan
 for COUNTY RECORDER

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Europe Just Learned Donald Trump Can't Be Trusted

By Edwin Eisendrath

Edwin Eisendrath hosts It's the Democracy, Stupid on Lincoln Square and WCPT820 AM/Heartland Signal. He's the former CEO of the Chicago Sun-Times, a long-time management consultant, a former Chicago Alderman, HUD Regional Administrator and teacher in Chicago's public schools



Russia appears on the verge of an important victory in Donbas in eastern Ukraine, but the cost is enormous.

Crimea, that large diamond-shaped peninsula into the Black Sea that for a time was the southernmost part of Ukraine before being annexed by Russia, is under siege. Ukraine has successfully destroyed most of the infrastructure

that would carry fuel to the region. Russia is desperate to hold Crimea; Russians living in Crimea are desperate to leave. Meanwhile, Ukraine's capability to damage energy infrastructure in Russia itself has grown. Their attacks have been so successful that Russia may have to limit energy exports to meet domestic demand — a huge economic loss for Putin.

Hardliners in Russia are urging the use of tactical nuclear weapons. There are reports, whether true or Russian war propaganda, that some are arguing to target London.

Sergei Lavrov, Russia's brilliant and dangerous foreign minister wants to know if the agreement Trump and Putin made in Anchorage died in Evian at the recent G7 meeting. Whether he is actually worried that Donald Trump is switching sides, or whether he is simply reminding Trump that he's watching, is unknown.

There are also reports that Europe is making contingency plans because they no longer believe they can count on the United States if Russia expands the war to pressure them to abandon Ukraine.

Ukraine, Russia, and Europe have all learned one shared lesson in this terrible war: Donald Trump cannot be trusted.

Under Trump, the United States no longer provides credible, clear, and strategic international leadership. As a result, the possibility of an expanded war in Europe grows every day. Should that happen, it would be a catastrophe far greater than anything since the Second World War.

And if calamity comes are we prepared?

No, we are not.

Letters From An American

By Heather Cox Richardson



“To show the importance of the Slaughter Case, 90 years of precedent has been COMPLETELY AND UNEQUIVOCALLY OVERRULED, greatly increasing Presidential Power at a time when it is most needed!” President Donald J. Trump wrote this afternoon. He continued: “Today’s Historic Slaughter Decision by the Supreme Court is the Greatest Increase in Presidential Power in the last 100 years. Such a Monumental Ruling at such an important time!”

Political theorist Jacob T. Levy posted in response: “No, see, ‘overruled 90 years of precedent in order to expand presidential power’ is the way **critics** describe it. **Your** side says: resisting intrusion into core executive functions, protecting the sanctity of the separation of powers, and acknowledging that the precedent has been whittled away.”

But Greg Sargent of *The New Republic* countered that “Trump constantly and explicitly holds up his naked corruption **as a badge of honor** that his supporters are supposed to thrill to (and see benefit for themselves in). He thinks corruption is the highest form of winning.”

The case of *Slaughter v. Trump* began in March 2025, when Trump fired the last remaining Democratic member of the Federal Trade Commission, Rebecca Slaughter. Since 1935 the Supreme Court has said the president does not have the power to fire members of independent agencies created by Congress except for “inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office.”

Although Trump himself initially appointed Slaughter, he claimed he fired her because her continued service on the independent commission was “inconsistent with [the] Administration’s priorities” and that he had the right to do so under the authority granted to him by Article II of the Constitution despite the fact Congress set up the position in such a way that it would be shielded from presidential politics.

This argument is an attempt to establish the idea of the “unitary executive,” a theory the right wing has pushed since the 1980s, when it began to distrust the will of voters as they expressed it through Congress and thus tried to find ways to assert the power of the president and reduce the power of Congress.

The theory of the unitary executive says that since the president is the head of one of the three independent branches of government—those are the legislative branch, the executive branch, and the judicial branch—he has sole authority over the executive branch and cannot be reined in by the other two branches. Trump has leaned into this idea since 2019, when he told attendees at the Turning Point USA Teen Student Action Summit being held in Washington, D.C., “I have an Article II, where I have...the right to do whatever I want as president.”

The Supreme Court's 2024 *Donald J. Trump v. United States* decision supported Trump's reading of the powers of the president when it took the radical position that a president could not be prosecuted for crimes committed in the course of official presidential duties. In his second term, Trump has worked to fit his power grabs within the contours of that decision. Now the Supreme Court appears primed to hand him another win by finding the president has complete control over the officers in the executive branch, including the independent agencies established by Congress but which Congress has been placing in the executive branch since the administration of President George Washington.

Representing the government, Solicitor General John Sauer told the court that the president must be able to remove officials in the agencies because "the President must have the power to control and...the one who has the power to remove is the one who...is the person that they have to fear and obey."

In hearings on the case last December, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson suggested that this political destruction of the independent agencies Congress had established to provide nonpartisan expertise on issues like how to regulate pollutants would hurt the country. "[H]aving a president come in and fire all the scientists, and the doctors, and the economists and the PhDs, and replacing them with loyalists and people who don't know anything is actually not in the best interest of the citizens of the United States," she said.

Today, in a 6–3 vote, the Supreme Court decided the case in Trump's favor. Now, even if the American people elect members of Congress who create agencies to protect our interests, the president can gut them and turn them to his own purposes.

Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, and Ketanji Brown Jackson dissented. They noted that throughout our history, both Congress and the president have agreed that some of government's functions should operate outside of party politics. Financial management, workplace safety, consumer safety, addressing environmental hazards, and managing nuclear energy, for example, should not depend "on who is in office—much less on who is disfavored or owed a favor by those in office—but also on judgment, expertise, and the public good."

"Since the founding, Congress has created agencies that in various ways have embodied this goal of independence. Over the last 140 years especially, the political branches have done so by establishing agencies like the Federal Trade Commission (FTC): bipartisan, multimember bodies with "for-cause" removal protections. This structure allows the agencies to address complex problems while enjoying some independence from Presidential removal and thus absolute partisan control."

"Today," though, they write, "this Court undoes centuries of political practice and concludes that all three branches of Government have been acting in open defiance of the Constitution all this time. Its conclusion is wrong.... [T]he Court gives the President a power unknown even to the English Crown against which the Founders revolted, elevating him above his once-coequal branches by transforming a duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed into a license to act in defiance of those very laws."

Senator Andy Kim (D-NJ) explains: "The FTC, or the Federal Trade Commission, is an independent government agency that is supposed to protect you, the American consumer. They fight fraud, ensure businesses are making accurate claims in their advertising, and enforce data privacy and security. The independence of the agency ensures that the

FTC doesn't make decisions at a whim of any one president or political party, but instead acts in your best interest. For example, the FTC put more money back into the pockets of Americans by banning junk fees for short-term lodging and live event activity."

Kim notes that we've seen Trump "target, fire, prosecute civil servants, perceived as political enemies. We've seen him install members of his inner circle, including his own family, campaign donors, and people with personal loyalties to him. And we've seen him attack federal agencies and federal employees, gutting critical programs and firing the people who run them."

With the Supreme Court's decision, Trump now has "unchecked power to remove any head of any independent agency. Get the agencies to bend to his will, to play by his rules."

As legal analyst Barb McQuade notes, Trump's new powers will let him fire commissioners at agencies including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Consumer Product Safety Board, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Nuclear Safety Board. Federal employees have been free from political interference for 150 years, but now, she writes, "The spoils system is back, baby!"

The court's decision in *Trump v. Slaughter* gives Trump power he clearly has no inclination to give up. When asked today if he would sign the popular bipartisan housing bill that passed Congress with overwhelming support, Trump said he hadn't decided and called the bill "a yawn." He wants Congress to pass the voter ID law that will essentially guarantee that voters cannot turn Republicans out of office, making the United States a one-party state in which Congress simply rubber-stamps the actions of the president. It appears he is willing to hold the housing bill hostage until he gets it.

"To me," he said, "compared to the Save America Act, just about everything is a big yawn."

Happy Birthday



AUGUST

Michelle Abney
Teresa Bell
Shenea Booth
Teresa Crawford
Ashley Delobel
Dawn Dudas
Elizabeth Foyt
Ashley Lovell
Carolyn Muise
Commissioner Tick Segerblom
Jason Smith
Sherry Strothers
Councilwoman Shondra Summers Armstrong

SEPTEMBER

Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod
Councilman Richard Cherchi
Nancy Downey
Brenda Ingargiola
Karen James
Ed Long
Gregory Mitchell
Julia Salas
Elizabeth Taylor
Jill Zinner

The Only Way To End Trump's Endless War

By Robert Reich



Unless he destroys what's left of American democracy

Trump's war with Iran is back on, but in reality it never ended.

Renewed attacks by both sides this weekend continued today with new Iranian assaults on U.S. military bases and assets in Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait and Oman.

This prompted Trump to declare that the U.S. will take over the Strait of Hormuz, reintroduce its naval blockade of Iranian ports, and, for the first time, charge a 20 percent fee on maritime cargo, mirroring Iran's tolls on traffic in the Strait of Hormuz.

(Didn't Marco Rubio say less than three weeks ago that charging tolls on international waterways violates international law?)

Oil prices have already risen about [5 percent](#). Although they're still below this spring's highs, American consumers will surely be hit by steadily higher prices for gas and for food (because food production depends on fertilizer and many components of fertilizer also depend on ships moving through the strait).

The new fighting was inevitable because the so-called "memorandum of understanding" signed by the U.S. and Iran on June 17 reopened the Strait of Hormuz *on the condition* that Iran was in control of it.

The memo said Iran would "make arrangements using its best efforts for the safe passage of commercial vessels" through the strait. Conspicuously missing from the agreement was any guarantee that ships could safely sail any portion of the strait.

It prohibited the charging of tolls or fees for only 60 days while negotiations toward another agreement continued.

The final line of the memorandum formally ceded to Iran a central role in managing the strait: "The Islamic Republic of Iran will conduct dialogue with the Sultanate of Oman to define the future administration and maritime services in the Strait of Hormuz, in discussion with other Persian Gulf littoral states, in line with the applicable international law and the sovereign rights of coastal states of the Strait of Hormuz."

This is what we get with a president who's desperate to get gas prices down before the midterm elections, a vice president who knows nothing about negotiating treaties and insists "we have all the cards" when the deck is loaded for the other side, a secretary of defense only capable of ordering more bombs be dropped, and a State Department that isn't even at the table.

So what now? Iran is suffering economic pain but it's a fierce dictatorship, so it's willing to endure pain to hold on to its trump card — control over the strait.

But America is still a democracy and we're not willing to endure a lot of pain simply to restore the status quo we had before the brainless egomaniac in the Oval Office decided to attack Iran.

We'll start voting in three months, and most of us can be expected to vote out the bums in Congress who have supported him. Then Congress can pass a resolution revoking Trump's power to pursue this costly and unnecessary war, which is the only way to end it.

Unless, of course, he converts us into a dictatorship before then.



Save The Date

"Stronger Together"

Date: Saturday, September 5, 2026
Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino
3000 Paradise Road - Las Vegas - NV - 89109
Ballrooms C-F

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Reception with Live Entertainment
Mix, mingle, and enjoy!
Cash Bar
Silent Auction with Exciting Prizes

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Dinner & Program
Live Entertainment Throughout the Evening
Inspiring Guest Speakers
Honoring Outstanding Members of Our Community
Surprises You Won't Want to Miss!

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Celebrate with a Room Full of Passionate Democrats

Connect with like-minded people
Unforgettable night of Fun, Socializing, and Impact.

Join Us, Mark Your Calendar!



Letters From An American

By Heather Cox Richardson



Today began with yet another demonstration of the fact that the U.S. options for extricating itself from Trump's war on Iran with conditions anywhere near as good as they were under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) negotiated with a number of countries under President Barack Obama, or even as good as they were in February 2026 before Trump and Israeli president Benjamin Netanyahu launched air strikes on Iran, do not appear promising.

At 10:16 this morning, Trump announced on social media that the Strait of Hormuz "is OPEN, and will remain OPEN, with or without Iran. We are reinstating THE IRANIAN BLOCKADE, so named because it is only stopping Iran's ships or customers from entering or leaving. All other countries will have fair and open use of the Strait. The U.S.A. will be, from this point forward, known as 'THE GUARDIAN OF THE HORMUZ STRAIT,' but as such, and as a matter of FAIRNESS, will be reimbursed, at the rate of 20% on all cargo shipped, for any and all costs necessary to do the job of providing safety and security to this very volatile section of the World. The process and formation will begin immediately."

In other words, the U.S. is restarting hostility—a blockade is an act of war—and, according to Trump, will protect the Strait of Hormuz but expects to be paid.

Trump has been clear that he considers the memorandum of understanding he signed on June 17 no longer in force, probably not least because Iranian officials interpret the words of the hastily constructed deal as giving Iran control over the Strait of Hormuz. They have been clear they intend to charge fees for passage of the strait, a condition the U.S. rejects although Trump's current claim that the U.S. will charge fees seems to undercut the U.S. position.

Crucially, officials in the Trump administration continue to deny that Congress has any role in declaring war, despite the clear language of the Constitution. Under the 1973 War Powers Act, the president can respond without congressional input to an "imminent threat" so long as the president notifies Congress in writing within 48 hours of the beginning of hostilities. After that notification, the president has only 60 days before he must either end hostilities or secure congressional approval for them.

Trump got around this law first by overruling his own intelligence agencies to insist that Iran posed an imminent threat to the U.S. Then when the May 1 deadline for either withdrawal or congressional approval approached, he claimed that hostilities had ended on April 7 with the declaration of a ceasefire, notwithstanding that both sides continued to shoot at each other and the U.S. maintained its blockade of Iranian ports.

...k after ICE shot and killed Lorenzo Salgado Araujo of Houston, Texas. Salgado Araujo was a Mexican national. Now they are claiming the power simply to start the clock again. On Friday, Trump formally notified Congress that the U.S. has resumed strikes on Iran, claiming the Pentagon has another 60 days to strike Iran before the timeline specified by the War Power Act runs out.

Today Elizabeth Dwoskin, Andrew Ba Tran, Luis Melgar, and Peter Jamison of the *Washington Post* reported that Trump's sons "Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump have amassed a portfolio of defense technology start-ups that are benefiting from new Pentagon priorities and spending, further entangling the United States' interests and the Trump family's financial fortunes." They have invested in more than a dozen defense companies that have collectively received at least \$3.2 billion in business directly from the government since those investments, along with \$3.1 billion in options for future contracts.

Tonight U.S. Central Command announced it has begun a third night of strikes against Iran.

At about 7:15 this morning, an agent from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) shot and killed 26-year-old Joan Sebastian Guerrero in Biddeford, Maine. According to staff from the *Portland Press Herald*, Guerrero was from Colombia and was authorized to work in the U.S. The Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition said he had a Social Security number and was on his way to work.

Spokespeople for ICE and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which oversees ICE, have not commented. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) has called for "a full and impartial investigation," but as her political opponents note, Collins voted just last month to give ICE another \$70 billion. ICE and Border Patrol had become far less visible as Republicans worked to pass supplemental funding for ICE and Border Patrol through Congress. In the wake of that new funding, immigration sweeps are back in the news. Protests broke out today outside Collins's Biddeford office.

Senator Angus King (I-ME) told Patrick Whittle, Leah Willingham, and Jack Brook of the Associated Press that Secretary of Homeland Security Markwayne Mullin told him Guerrero had tried to use his vehicle as a weapon against officers, forcing the agent to shoot. This allegation has been a common one for agents trying to justify fatal shootings, including that of Renee Good in Minnesota. Witness Daniel Boucher said that in the aftermath of the shooting, he saw Guerrero "bleeding profusely from the head. He was talking. He said: 'I tried to stop.'"

This evening, Representative Chellie Pingree (D-ME) said she had learned that the man ICE shot and killed was not the person they had an order to pick up. '

In a statement tonight the Department of Homeland Security claimed that the officer shot because he was "fearing for public safety." David Bier of the Cato Institute and Aaron Reichlin-Melnick of the Immigration Council both called out that language, noting DHS was claiming not that the officer feared for his life, but that he had a vague concern for "public safety."

The ICE killing of a man in Maine comes less than a week after ICE shot and killed Lorenzo Salgado Araujo of Houston, Texas. Salgado Araujo was a Mexican national who had lived in the U.S. for 35 years and was close to obtaining legal status. His son told Lekan Oyekanmi, Jack Brook, and Jeffrey Collins of the Associated Press that the homebuilder knew what to do when approached by ICE but may have feared that the men following him in unmarked SUVs intended to steal his tools.

ICE said the officers “attempted to conduct a vehicle stop as part of a targeted enforcement operation to arrest an illegal alien” and that Salgado Araujo “rammed an ICE law enforcement vehicle, refused to follow multiple verbal commands, and weaponized his vehicle in an attempt to run over an ICE law enforcement officer.” It added that an officer “discharged his weapon in self-defense.”

A lawyer for two of the people in the van with Salgado Araujo denied that he tried to ram officers. A source later told Dalia Faheid, Chris Boyette, Priscilla Alvarez, and Carroll Alvarado of CNN that ICE’s description of the events that killed Salgado Araujo as a “targeted enforcement operation” was misleading. While that may have been the case, Salgado Araujo was not the target. They saw him in his van near the target and thought he “resembled the target.”

José Olivares of *The Guardian* noted that Salgado Araujo was the tenth person shot and killed by federal immigration officers from either ICE or Border Patrol this year. Twenty-one more people have died in ICE detention this year.

This afternoon the Trump administration finally turned over to Minnesota investigators evidence from the fatal shootings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti in January. That evidence includes statements, video from police body cameras, and Good’s badly damaged SUV.

Today U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Florida Kathleen Williams said Trump, his lawyers, and the lawyers for the Department of Justice had manufactured the so-called settlement of Trump’s \$10 billion lawsuit against the Internal Revenue Service. “[T]he Court finds that this matter was brought for an improper purpose—to gain the imprimatur of judicial legitimacy for a ‘settlement’ that had no viable basis in law or fact,” she wrote. They launched the lawsuit “as a means of conferring legitimacy upon a course of action that they were unwilling to subject to judicial review.”

The course of action they intended to take was to establish a \$1.776 billion slush fund for Trump loyalists who claimed that the Department of Justice under former president Joe Biden had been weaponized against them. While that part of the deal got most of the attention, probably more important to Trump was the addition to the “settlement” announced the next day: a promise that Trump, his family, his businesses, and even his “associates” would be immune from prosecution for any tax crimes revealed by audits of tax returns filed before May 19, 2026.

“No sitting President has ever sued federal agencies completely subject to his control for monetary benefits, or any benefits that inure to him, his family, and associates,” Williams wrote. After Trump dropped his lawsuit, thirty-five former judges had asked Williams to set aside her dismissal of the case with the goal of determining whether the claimed “settlement” was a fraud on the court.

In her opinion, she noted that the question before the court was simply whether there was a legitimate lawsuit, and the answer was no. The final disposition of the slush fund and the immunity were not questions before the court. “Whether Executive Branch actors can privately agree to give themselves and their former clients blanket immunities and billions of dollars in tax monies for legally undefined grievances was never an issue advanced to this Court. The question is whether the Parties could do so by claiming to be adverse and engaging the legitimacy of a court proceeding. The answer is a resounding ‘no.’”

Williams recommended legal sanctions against some of the lawyers involved and said she was “extremely troubled” by the testimony of Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche, which was “at best, misleading and, at worst, disingenuous.”

Blanche used to be Trump’s personal defense lawyer and has said he believes he has a “continuing duty of loyalty” to Trump. The president has nominated Blanche to become attorney general. His confirmation hearings begin on Wednesday.



WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF CLARK COUNTY

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I affirm that I am registered to vote with the Democratic Party in the State of Nevada: Yes []
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General Membership: \$35 Annual Dues Paid By: Check [] Money Order [] Cash []

Past WDC Presidents and Current Students: \$15 Annual Dues Paid By: Check [] Money Order [] Cash []

Renee Diamond Scholarship Fund Donation: Paid By: Check [] Money Order [] Cash [] Online [LINK](#) []
Carol Chesnut Law School Fund Donation [LINK](#)

I am interested in participating on the following Committees:
(you will be notified if there are vacancies available)

[] By-Laws [] Donkey Tracks [] Fundraising [] Historian [] [] Holiday Party [] Legislative Advisor [] Mentorship
[] Political Action [] Political Education [] Pot 'O Gold
[] Program [] Renee Diamond Scholarship Fund [] Social Media/Publicity [] Sunshine
[] Telephone [] Voter Registration

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