

PRESS RELEASE

ORO VALLEY VOTE EXPLAINED

March 15, 2006

The results of Oro Valley's March 14 Primary Election mean that all of the candidates for Town Council must now participate in the General Election that will be held on May 16, 2006. This is not true of the Mayor's race where incumbent Paul Loomis was re-elected with over 57% of the votes cast.

Town Clerk Kathi Cuvelier explains that election rules require any Town Council candidate to receive more than 50% of the votes cast in order to be elected in the Primary Election. Since none of the six candidates received the required 50% plus 1 of the total ballots cast for Council seats, all six must stand for election in May. These candidates includes three incumbents—Paula Abbott, KC Carter and Conny Culver—as well as challengers Don Cox, Kathy Pastryk and Al Kunisch.

The Oro Valley Town Code states that, in the event that no Council candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, there shall be two candidates for each available Council seat in the General Election. Since three Council seats are available, that means that the same six candidates who faced each other in the Primary Election will continue to vie for the same three seats in the General Election.

The May 16 election will be a polling place election, explains Cuvelier. Because a county-wide election will be held regarding the Regional Transportation Authority questions as well as the Kino Hospital bond question, Oro Valley will be unable to hold

an all-mail election as it has done in the past. Information about polling places will be sent to voters by Pima County in April.

Oro Valley voters also approved the “Home Rule Option” which will allow the Town to match its expenditures with expected revenues rather than be tied to a 1979 formula developed by the state Legislature. In addition, voters gave approval to the sales tax sharing agreement with Phoenix based Vestar to build and operate a 900,000 square foot regional shopping center at the southwest corner of Oracle and Tangerine.

The Oro Valley Town Council will canvass the votes and declare official totals at its March 22 regular meeting.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT BOB KOVITZ AT 229-4712/400-7201