

AZ History: A simple card game called faro led to serious fights in the Old West. **F3**

Viewpoints: By all means, address Ebola, but don't overlook very real threats to your family's health. **F4**



Valley & State *InDepth*

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SUPER BOWL XLIX

LANDING THE BIG ONE

How perseverance, a rules change and iPads helped Arizona win the right to host the Super Bowl in 2015

RYAN VAN VELZER THE REPUBLIC · AZCENTRAL.COM

Mike Kennedy had 15 minutes to convince 32 NFL team owners that Arizona deserved the Super Bowl. ¶ He'd been in front of this committee, and lost, three times before. ¶ It was early October 2011, and Kennedy stood inside a conference room at a Houston hotel to bid for the 2015 game. ¶ The owners of every American football club sat in front of him in high-back, black leather chairs, their arms

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY WENDY GOLDFARB/GANNETT AND THINKSTOCK



6 certainties we can take away from Election 2014

I knew the election was over Tuesday when Doug Ducey called Fred DuVal “a fine man.”

For months, DuVal’s been the “slick lobbyist” who careened around town with a suspended driver’s license and an I Love Saddam bumper sticker. By Tuesday evening, he was “a fine man.”

And so we bid goodbye to Election 2014 — a year when triumphant elephants thundered and dazed donkeys plodded through the debris field to mount a search-and-rescue operation for their future in Arizona politics.

So what have we learned?

» That Republicans might not dominate the state but unlike Democrats and independents, they vote. Republican political dominance will continue in Arizona, as the party continues to control every statewide office and the Legislature. Democrats, meanwhile, continue to bumble and stumble, unable to attract the all-important outside money or even to get their voters to vote.

» That money talks. And these days, it drowns out everything else. Outside interests, many of them standing in the shadows, dug deep to get their candidates elected this year and most of those candidates were Republicans. In every case but one, the candidate bolstered by the most outside spending was the one cracking open the champagne Tuesday night. The Republican sweep may have been prompted by unhappiness with President Barack Obama, but it was propelled by forces outside of Arizona, many of them anonymous.

Republican Ducey had a 6-1 edge in independent spending, with nearly \$8 million spent by outside interests intent on making him governor. Republican Michele Reagan enjoyed an 8-1 advantage over Democrat Terry Goddard in the secretary of state’s race. Republican Mark Brnovich (attorney general) and Republicans Tom Forese and Doug Little (Corporation Commission) also attracted multi-million-dollar outside support.

» That you can forget about any hope the Legislature will tackle dark money in an effort to let us see who is calling the shots in Arizona politics. Why would Republicans want to bite the invisible (to us, at least) hand that feeds them? If Arizona is ever to demand dark-money disclosure, it’ll come via voter initiative.

» That the more outrageous the ad, the better. Despite what our esteemed candidates said — that this was a campaign about issues — it was really a campaign about character assassination. Both sides did it. Republicans just did it better because they had the money to make all that mud stick.

If Election 2014 were really a vote about issues, we’d know precisely how Ducey plans to improve public education, boost jobs and cut income taxes while bridging a \$1 billion deficit. If it were really a vote about issues, we’d

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Forgotten veteran gets a final salute

RICHARD RUELAS
THE REPUBLIC · AZCENTRAL.COM

There is not much known about Clifford Walker except that he served as a U.S. Marine during the Vietnam War and that he hoped that, upon his death, his remains would be laid to rest at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona.

That is not where Walker’s ashes ended up. Instead, they were held for years in a storage room in south Phoenix. They were still in the plastic bin provided by the crematorium. Walker’s name was on a white sticker affixed to the box.

The remains were among those discovered by state and federal investigators when they raided a body donation business in January.

The ongoing investigation centered

on whether the business handled the bodies as was promised to the donors, who thought their bodies would be aiding medical research.

But the investigators also cared about the dignity of those whose remains they found.

Which is why Walker — so far the only military veteran discovered at the business — will have his ashes interred with full military honors at the National Memorial Cemetery on Monday.

“We just wanted to make sure this gentleman had an appropriate farewell,” said Charles Loftus, assistant chief agent with the Arizona Attorney General’s Office.

Loftus was among the law-enforcement officers who raided the Biological Resource Center in January. In an inter-

view, he was careful about describing the scene at the business as he did not want to derail the investigation.

But he said that Walker’s remains were in a back storeroom. It appeared they had been there awhile, and there was nothing to indicate they would be headed for proper interment anytime soon.

“They certainly were not ready to be disposed of,” Loftus said.

The Biological Resource Center is part of a multistate probe, involving the FBI and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

These businesses do not deal with people who wish to donate organs, a tightly regulated procedure.

Instead, these businesses work with people who wish to donate the remaining

More veterans coverage

Sunday: Has veteran care improved at the Phoenix VA and nationally? **A1**

Also Sunday: More than 100 Valley veterans responded to *The Republic’s* invitation to have portraits taken in our studio for Military Photo Day. See their photos and a feature on a Battle of the Bulge veteran who also helped liberate the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau. **F1**

Monday: A Valley bugler hits all the right notes for taps at military burials. **A1**

Tuesday: Former Maricopa County Attorney Richard Romley writes of the importance of serving one’s country. **A1**

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