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NANCY REAGAN: 1921-2016

Arizona officials remember a transformative first lady's kindness, loyalty and impact on her husband's presidency



A legacy of love

CHRIS COPPOLA THE REPUBLIC | AZCENTRAL.COM

Arizona elected officials reacted Sunday to the death of former first lady Nancy Reagan, who redefined the role of presidential spouse — and who, along with her late husband, former President Ronald Reagan, had longtime ties to the Phoenix area. ¶ Reagan died Sunday of congestive heart failure at the age of 94. **See REAGAN, Page 6A**

Above: Ronald and Nancy Reagan go for a walk at the Arizona Biltmore during their honeymoon in 1952. Top: Nancy Reagan arrives at a gala for former President George H.W. Bush in 2007. AP PHOTOS

John D'Anna: Long ago, a brief encounter in Mesa. **6A**

● **USA TODAY**

First lady remembered: She helped shape Ronald Reagan's time in office. **1B**

Scientist: ASU, Crow retaliated against her

DENNIS WAGNER AND ANNE RYMAN THE REPUBLIC | AZCENTRAL.COM

A prominent research administrator and scientist at Arizona State University has filed a lawsuit that accuses school administrators, including President Michael Crow, of abusing their authority, diverting funds intended for her lab and harassing employees who make allegations of ethics violations.



Deirdre Meldrum

The civil action was filed Feb. 29 in Maricopa County Superior Court by professor Deirdre Meldrum, a university scientist and former dean at the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering. It echoes and recites many of the allegations Meldrum previously filed in a whistleblower statement and a notice of claim against ASU. Those actions, not previously divulged publicly, were obtained by *The Arizona Republic* via a government-records request.

The lawsuit includes counts alleging breach of contract, misrepresentation and whistleblower retaliation.

Meldrum, who came to ASU in 2006, said her conflicts began three years after she arrived, when she complained to Crow that research funds and staffing

See ASU, Page 8A

Presidential voting in Ariz. could change

MARY JO PITZL THE REPUBLIC | AZCENTRAL.COM

Arizona makes its picks for presidential nominees in a March 22 election.

But as early voting is underway, lawmakers are working on a bill to make the 2016 election the final presidential preference election in Arizona. And they're giving a hard look at a proposal that would change the way the U.S. president is elected by ensuring the Electoral College reflects the winner of the national popular vote.

The changes, if they happened, would reflect the convulsive nature of

See PRIMARY, Page 10A

ALSO

Scam targets grandma: A Scottsdale grandmother thought she was helping her grandson get out of jail. Instead, she fell victim to one of many scams that target Arizona's seniors, and it led her to wire more than \$1,000 to the Dominican Republic. **7A**

Walmart gives raises: More than 31,000 associates in Arizona, including more than 17,700 in the Valley, will be affected by pay increases as Arkansas-based retail giant Walmart boosts all its workers to at least \$10 an hour this week. **13A**

AZCENTRAL SPORTS



BRANDON DILL/AP

After going nearly three months without a road victory, the Suns get their second win in a row, beating playoff contender Memphis 109-100 behind Devin Booker's 27 points. 1C

FORECAST



Partly cloudy
High 71° || Low 51°

Weather outlook: Lower temperatures and even a chance of rain are in the forecast this week. **3A**

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Daily || \$1.50

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