

*"To have really lived, you must have almost died. To those who have fought for it, freedom has a flavor the protected will never know."*

**Scrawled on a bunker outside Khe Sahn, RVN**

**Gwen Warren to Speak on Arizona Civics**

Greer Warren has been a resident of Tucson since 1988. The election of 2016 woke her up. Greer characterizes herself as a citizen and a patriot. She says that her primary credentials for delivering a talk on civics and structure of government is that she is a fairly intelligent person with a need to know. As all of you are, as well.

**SAVE THE DATE: Upcoming DOV Holiday Party**

Each year DOV sponsors a "Holiday Party." Please plan to reserve Monday, December 11th on your calendars for our DOV Holiday Party. The party will be at El Charro Café, 7725 N. Oracle Road, from 5 PM to 7 PM. The cost will be \$20.00 for the plated meal of your choice plus the delicious holiday cake. We will also have a fun holiday raffle so bring your extra dollars.

**THANK YOU'S to DOV**

Democrats of Oro Valley is a very caring and generous Democratic club. We feel the most vulnerable in our society must not be forgotten. Each month DOV collects items for our Veterans, our needy working families and Our Youth on their Own. We have been an active club for over 12 years. The following are just a few of the letters of appreciation we have received:

**IMPACT of Southern Arizona:** "Because of DOV's kindness and generosity, the programs that IMPACT of Southern Arizona offer will be able to grow and reach more of our neighbors and friends in need. Thank you for all your food donations."

**YOUTH ON THEIR OWN (YOTO):** "Thanks you so much for your recent donations. With DOV's support we are able to fulfill our mission to provide Pima County's homeless teens with help to stay in school and graduate. Because of you, another homeless teenager in need will be empowered to continue their education."

**Southern Arizona VA:** "On behalf of the Tucson Southern AZ VA Hospital patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to DOV for your donations of toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap and books for our Homeless Program. DOV's thoughtfulness reflects the concern that you feel for our Veterans and for the service they provided to all of us while in service to our country."

**THANK YOU DOV.** Continue to help with your donations. Our community appreciates your generosity.

**Ralph's Race**



Thanks to the amazing support of Democrats throughout LD11, the Atchue for Senate campaign is off to a record setting pace! We have already reached 2 of our 3 early Clean Election campaign milestones: 1. We have reached the statutory limit for "seed money" 2. We have exceeded the 240 \$5 Qualifying Contributions required for Clean Elections funding. Also, while we have already reached the minimum number of petition signatures to qualify for the 2018 ballot, we will continue to gather additional signatures leading up to the filing date in January. This is a great start and we fully intend to keep up the momentum!!

My take on the national election results this November is that Democrats have a window of opportunity. It is apparent that when we clearly and consistently make our case to the American people, they listen and relate. 2018 in Arizona has got to be about assuring voters that Democrats are offering realistic and commonsense solutions. Our message can't be based solely on finger pointing and complaining - voters want to know how we can make their daily lives better today and tomorrow.

The Atchue for Senate campaign is focused on Rebuilding AZ's Middle Class and Small Business opportunities. We're offering commonsense solutions based on four priorities: Public Education \* AZ's Economy \* Our Environment \* Political Ethics. If these are issues/priorities that resonate with you, please join Atchue's Army as we march across LD11 every day until election day 2018!

Contact us at: [Atchue4AZSenate@gmail.com](mailto:Atchue4AZSenate@gmail.com)

Visit our Website: [www.Atchue4AZSenate.com](http://www.Atchue4AZSenate.com)



*Betty Stauffer with Literacy Connects*



*Ralph Speaking with Enthusiam!*

**Pay your 2018 DOV dues now, still only \$20!**

## Let's Talk Fiscal Responsibility!

By Hollace Lyon, Colonel, USAF (ret.)



The [AZ Republic recently reportedly on the reduction in state revenue](#) caused by the Legislature cutting the budget of the AZ Department of Revenue. I've previously talked and written about this penny wise, pound foolish move, and this article just reinforced my assessment.

In spite of warnings from experts, state budget cuts forced layoffs of AZ DOR auditors responsible for corporate auditing resulting in a \$75 million fall in revenue from 2016 to 2017.

In October of 2016, [the DCourier reported AZ DOR's reduction of auditors](#) from 30 to 4. "There basically is no longer any corporate activity at the Department of Revenue," said Georganna Meyer, the agency's former chief economist, "That's going to have a significant impact on any enforcement revenues we've seen in the past." Governor Ducey's spokesman brushed aside the sharp drop in the number of corporate auditors saying state revenues and tax collections were up. An AZ DOR spokesman backed up the claim, but said the impact of the 50-employee layoff had not yet been felt.

This isn't nearly enough said Meyer. "Corporate auditing is hard and companies will cheat if they can get away with it." With more than 50,000 corporations in the state, the oversight job is huge, but just the threat of an audit helps honest companies stay that way.

Even without cheating, corporations are making out like bandits in Arizona. In 2013, they were "paying" a tax rate of close to 7 percent, [in 2017 it was 4.9 percent.](#)

Arizona's entire annual budget is just over \$9B, but our Legislature gives away over \$13B in corporate tax breaks each year while our K-12 schools lag the national average for funding by over \$5B. The dogmatic determination to pursue repeatedly wrong-proven trickle-down tax breaks is a race to the bottom that will not end well (ask Kansas).

Republicans know tax cuts sell, so they tout State tax reductions to get voters on their side. But it's a bait-and-switch strategy. Counties, cities, and school districts get stuck asking for local tax increases (sales and property) to protect investments in education and infrastructure. For residents and small businesses, it's still a tax increase, but poorer, rural areas will be less and less able to shoulder them, and we'll continue to segregate our communities into the "have's" and "have nots." That's not a winning State strategy.

We're on a downward spiral that can be fixed with some simple, well-placed policy changes. We need legislators who are serious about building a positive future where both business and our citizens can thrive. We need legislators willing to exercise real fiscal responsibility by saying "NO" to those corporate giveaways that don't produce a return on investment for our state and its citizens.



*Dustin and Ralph*



*Mike Dayton  
DOV President*



*Dustin Introducing  
Our Speaker*

OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS.

### HELP OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK

Please bring a donation of non-perishable food to our monthly meetings.

*If everyone brings only one or two items it will add up to a significant contribution!*

The Dems of Oro Valley care about the well-being of our less fortunate friends.

### SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!

Thanks to all of you who support our brave troops.

***Please bring any of these items to DOV for distribution to disabled veterans: deodorant, shaving items, toothpaste, tooth brushes, pocket novels and paper back puzzle books.***

*Please – no candy.*

### December Holiday Party

Monday

December 11, 2017

5-7 pm • El Charro

Mexican Restaurant

7725 N Oracle Road

**Bring extra \$\$\$ for the DOV Raffle!!**

**DEMOCRATS & PROGRESSIVE FRIENDS!**

**TAKE A BREAK FROM THE CURRENT *PRICKLY* NEWS**  
**Join Us at El Charro Cafe for DOV's**

# **HOLIDAY PARTY!**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH**  
**5-7PM**

El Charro, at 7725 N. Oracle, Oro Valley (front of Kohl's shopping center)

**HAPPY HOUR DRINKS**  
**UNTIL 6PM**

**\$20**  
**EACH**  
**PAY**  
**AT THE**  
**DOOR**

**fun raffle!**  
**BRING SOME \$\$\$**

**PLATED MEAL CHOICE:**

- ★ **EL CHARRO RED CHILI BURRO**
- ★ **SOFT CHICKEN TACOS**
- ★ **HANDMADE FRESH CORN TAMALES**

**ALL PLATES SERVED WITH TORTILLA CHIPS, SALSA SONORAN RICE, WHOLE OR REFIED BEANS, AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE.**

**DELICIOUS CAKE FOR DESSERT**

Please: you must RSVP  
by December 7  
email Evelyn at  
[elathram@demsov.org](mailto:elathram@demsov.org)

**LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED A VEGETARIAN OR VEGAN DISH.**