



Democrats of Oro Valley

Newsletter
April
2025

NIL CARBORUNDUM ILLEGITIMI

Serving Democrats in Oro Valley and Greater Northwest Tucson
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Real leaders remind us how great we are and how great we can be. Real leaders remind us that the power of the people is greater than the people in power, that we have a shared responsibility to make things better, that we can heal, and we can help. Real leaders remind us that we are the leaders we need to lead us out of the darkness. **Senator Cory Booker**

2025 Dues Still Only \$20

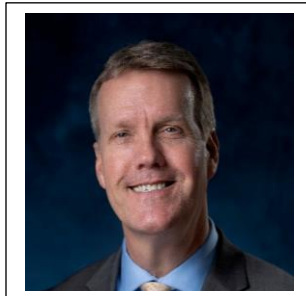
Pay using the DOV website below or send a check to DOV at P.O. Box 68186, Oro Valley, AZ 85737

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Speakers: Rex Scott and Joshua Polacheck



Rex Scott, Pima County Supervisor for District 1

Rex Scott was first elected to represent District 1 in 2020 and was re-elected in 2024.

In 1991, Rex moved to Pima County to take a position teaching social studies at Flowing Wells Junior High School, one of three schools in District 1 where he served during his career as a public-school educator.

In 2000, Rex began his 19-year career as an administrator working in both middle and high schools. During that time, he was an assistant principal at Ironwood Ridge High School and the principal at Tortolita Middle School, both District 1 schools.

Supervisor Rex Scott is honored to serve as part of the five-member Pima County Board of Supervisors. He continues working to ensure safe communities, nurture economic development, sustainably manage natural resources, and protect public health.



Joshua Polacheck, Vice Chair of the Arizona Democratic Party

The Arizona Democratic Party is committed to electing Democrats who will defend and fight for Arizona values of helping working families keep up with the cost of living, investing in education, ensuring Arizona's water future, and protecting our fundamental freedoms. The Party works to make our state and our world a better place for the generations that will follow.

As Vice Chair of the Arizona Democratic Party Joshua is working hard to make the contrast between those who serve corporations and those who serve the people abundantly clear to every voter, retake control of the Arizona government at all levels in all 15 counties and communicate credibly to the voters that entrusting Democrats with power means reclaiming power over their future.

5.2 million nationwide by Alt National Park Service Resistance team

Alt National Park Service is the official "Resistance" team of U.S. National Park Service. Our mission is to stand up for the National Park Service to help protect and preserve the environment for present and future generations.

Yesterday was incredible. The official count is 5.2 million people joined the [#HandsOff](#) protest nationwide. Some media outlets are reporting only "tens of thousands" participated, but that's no accident. Downplaying the turnout is a tactic to suppress momentum. But you were there. You saw the crowds. Even small red-district towns showed up in force. Don't let them rewrite the story. It was a historic day and we're just getting started. We are proud of all of you. For many, this was your first protest, and you showed up with strength and purpose.

So many people are asking: what's next? Mark your calendars: 4/19 is the next nationwide day of protest. Let's go even bigger — our goal is to get 3.5% of America in the streets. Keep your signs, make new ones, and start preparing now. Let's make history again on 4/19.



Things to Do Other than Joining a Protest *by Mike Dayton*

I know sometimes getting to a protest is difficult either due to the distance, physical capability, time factors and more. Here is a list of activities you can do instead of protesting.

1. Call or email your Congressman Juan Ciscomani at 520-881-3588
2. Write letters to the editor. Make sure you know your facts and make it clear how they will affect people.
3. Stay informed and BOYCOTT businesses that are banning DEI: [Tesla Inc.](#), [Amazon.com Inc.](#), [Meta Platforms Inc.](#), [Nestle](#), [Walmart Inc.](#) [Target Corp.](#)
4. Wear your RESIST pins and shirts, not just at rallies or protests. I have given away pins at local establishments where the receptionists liked my pin.
5. Support rallies or protests by purchasing signs, water, snacks.
6. Take a photo of those “I did that” stickers next to headlines, grocery store prices, or wherever you see the hurtful or bad things Trump has done and post it on Facebook.
7. Donate to Democratic causes: Common Cause, ACLU, local candidates like Kevin Volk, Environmental groups, Food Banks, Youth On Their Own, et cetera.
8. Get involved with your local Democratic clubs: Democrats or Oro Valley, Sun City Democrats, Saddle Brooke Democrats, Saddle Brooke Ranch Democrats, Democrats for Picture Rocks.
9. Get your news from the BBC, CBC, NPR, and fact check others using Snopes or other reliable sources.

Stay Informed. Stay Active. Stay Involved. The only thing needed for autocracy to triumph is for good people to do nothing.

No-Show Ciscomani Town Hall demonstration outside his office



STUFF THE TRUCK FOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

9:30 - 12:00 NOON

UDALL PARK



**SPECIAL GUEST: AZ REP. KEVIN VOLK,
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 17**

JOIN US AS WE COLLECT FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED.

Please bring new, unopened, non-perishable food and meals in pop-top cans to Ramada #1, Udall Park, 7290 East Tanque Verde Road in Tucson.

Democrats of Oro Valley (DOV) members can bring food to the Monday, 4/14, DOV meeting. You can also drop off food at the Dayton home located at 10049 N. Rancho Sonora Drive.



(MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALSO WELCOME.)



Federal budget cuts are hitting our community hard. In response, we are thrilled to partner with Interfaith Community Services (ICS) for this **one-time event** to gather food donations for those in need. Together, we can pool resources, open our pantries and pocketbooks, and make a difference.

LEARN MORE BY VISITING LD17AZDEMOCRATS.ORG

Paid for by LD17 Democratic Committee,
Kay Schriner, Treasurer
Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.





Leach and Keshel and their One-Trick Elephant by Dee Maitland

The federal government provides 44% of our state revenues totaling \$28.6 billion a year. 26% of our state expenditure goes to schools and 18% goes to healthcare programs. Our under-performing schools cannot withstand \$7+ billion in cuts. How many Arizonans will die from losing most of the federal healthcare funding? Yet, while DOGE is endangering us daily with funding cuts, Vince Leach, Rachel Keshel and their idiot buddies continue to propose legislation to cut taxes and give tax funds to billionaires like Ken Kendrick, owner of the Diamondbacks. This is the only “solution” Republicans have in their tool kit for our problems. Here are the tax bills moving forward:

HB2704 would give \$1.6 billion taxpayer funds with few strings attached to Mr. Kendrick to build a stadium. Mr. Kendrick is a member of the Koch donor network and a co-founder of the UA “Freedom Center”. He could fund a stadium on his own. There is no evidence that taxpayer funded stadiums ever return the investment. It passed the House 35/25 and Leach voted “yes” to get it out of his finance committee and on to a full vote in the Senate. Thankfully Keshel voted “no”.

HB2918 would cut tax rates across the board. It passed the House 31/28 with Keshel voting “NV”. Leach voted “yes” in both the finance and appropriations committees, so it is on to a full vote of the Senate.

HCR2021 would remove all taxes on groceries. Many states have this legislation on food and drugs, however, with our limited tax base this will harm municipalities who rely on sales tax revenues. Unfortunately, it will sound good to voters. Keshel voted “yes”. Leach voted “yes” to get it out of committee and on to a full Senate vote to add it to the 2026 ballot.

SB1318 would reduce the current 2.5% flat tax rate. Leach voted “yes” to get it out of committee and added his second “yes” when it passed the Senate 17to 12. Suspecting a veto by Governor Hobbs, the Senate also introduced and passed 17 to 10 **SCR1017** to put it to the voters in 2026.

SB1331 would allow for \$29,200 in annual retirement distributions to go untaxed. Currently Social Security income is not taxed. This gives wealthy people an additional tax break. Leach voted “yes” to get it out of committee and added his second “yes” when it passed the Senate 17to 12. It is now on to the House.

SB1371 would exempt all retirement income from taxes. Leach voted “yes” to get it out of committee and added his second “yes” when it passed the Senate 17 to 8. It is now on to the House. If the House passes it and SB1331 above, there will need to be some reconciliation.

We must not forget that the last time Republicans did significant tax cuts and tax giveaways we went from a \$1.8 billion surplus to a deficit resulting in major cuts to education and other programs. Leach was there for those votes. The Republican motto seems to be “The more you have, the more tax breaks you should get.”

Please follow these bills and give Governor Hobbs a call to ensure her veto.

Exciting things that have happened since our last newsletter

- ★ Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez held a “Fighting Oligarchy” rally: [Link to Article](#)



- ★ Senator Cory Booker gives a record-breaking speech: [Link to Speech](#)



- ★ Jackie and DOV get highlighted on podcast Good News for Lefties: [Link to Podcast](#)



- ★ Many successful rallies outside Tesla Dealership: [Link to Article](#)



- ★ Hands Off rally in Tucson a big success: [Link to Blog for AZ](#)



- ★ Hands Off rallies across the nation and around the world bring out hundreds of thousands and tears of joy: [Link to Rachel Maddow Coverage](#)



Good News for Democracy *compiled by Jacolyn Marshall*



From the Associated Press:

- 3/7: A second federal judge extended an injunction barring the Trump administration from freezing federal grants and loans.
- 3/7: A federal judge gave the Trump administration three days to pay nearly \$2 billion owed to partners of USAID and the State Department that would end the 6-month freeze on foreign assistance that forced organizations around the world to slash services and lay off thousands of workers.
- 3/7: 27 EU leaders backed new defense spending plans aimed at freeing up billions of euros to strengthen the continent's security and ensure Ukraine will still be protected.
- 3/8: 2,000 research scientists, doctors, patients and supporters protested against Trump's attack on science at the Stand Up for Science rally in DC; similar events took place in more than 30 cities across the nation.
- 3/8: Twenty states sued multiple federal agencies contending Trump's administration illegally fired thousands of federal probationary workers led by an Attorney General in Maryland where 10% of household receive wages from the federal government. They seek a temporary restraining order and reinstatement of those fired.
- 3/9: MacArthur Foundation is increasing its giving from 5% to 6% during this time of crisis; Freedom Together Foundation is doubling its grantmaking to 10%; and called on other philanthropic foundations to join them.
- 3/9: Foreign ministers from Muslim nations rejected Trump's plan to empty Gaza Strip of Palestinians.
- 3/9: Labor unions asked Maryland federal court for an emergency order to block DOGE's access to sensitive Social Security data; DOGE is limited by a different court order in New York.
- 3/9: Women demonstrated across the US, Europe, Africa, South America and elsewhere to mark International Women's Day with demands for ending inequality and gender-based violence.
- 3/10: A 40-day boycott of Target began for the duration of Lent to protest their decision to phase out some of its diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, including a program to help Black employees.
- 3/11: Military officials from more than 30 nations will take part in Paris talks to create an international security force for Ukraine.
- 3/11: Climate United Fund, a coalition of three nonprofit groups awarded \$7 billion by the Biden administration to finance clean energy and climate-friendly projects, sued the EPA for improperly freezing a legally awarded grant.
- 3/11: Supreme Court rejected a lawsuit by Republican attorneys general in 19 states aimed at blocking climate change suits against the oil and gas industry initiated by Democratic-led states' use of the own state courts to sue fossil fuel companies for misleading the public about their impact on climate change.
- 3/12: Federal judge sided with eight states seeking to block Trump's plan to cut hundreds of millions of dollars for teacher training.
- 3/14: Federal judge ordered Trump administration to reinstate thousands of probationary workers who were victims of mass firings across multiple agencies including Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, Defense, Energy, the Interior and the Treasury.
- 3/14: A coalition of 20 states and DC filed a federal lawsuit challenging Trump's sweeping layoffs across the Education Department claiming the cuts will result in loss of federal money for public schools and leave the agency unable to enforce Civil rights laws in schools among other disruptions.
- 3/14: During his Senate confirmation hearing Trump nominee for US ambassador to Canada declared that Canada is a sovereign state.
- 3/16: Federal Judge ruled Trump overstepped his constitutional authority in freezing almost all spending on US humanitarian and development work that Congress appropriated for foreign aid.

- 3/16: Top diplomats from the G7 industrialized democracies reaffirmed their unwavering support for Ukraine and called on Russia to agree to a ceasefire that respects its sovereignty and independence.
- 3/19: Chief Justice Roberts rejected Trump's call to impeach judges who ruled against his deportation plans stating impeachment is not an appropriate response to a judicial decision disagreement.
- 3/19: Federal court judge ruled Musk's dismantling USAID violates the Constitution and indefinitely blocked DOGE from making further cuts to the agency.
- 3/20: The EU announced a new drive to break its security dependence on the US by buying more defense equipment in Europe.
- 3/20: Federal judge ordered the Federal Bureau of Prisons to transfer two transgender women inmates back to federal women's prisons after they were sent to men's facilities following Trump's executive order removing transgender protections.
- 3/21: Pentagon restored webpages highlighting the wartime contributions of Navajo Code Talkers and other Native American veterans after being erased as part of Trump's anti-DEI order.
- 3/21: Trump's words are being used against him in court now that he is president, as was the case in US District Judge ruling that Musk violated the Constitution by dismantling USAID.
- 3/21: Federal judge instructed the Trump Administration to explain its failure to turn around flights carrying deportees to El Salvador in violation of his court order blocking them or face contempt of court.
- 3/23: Federal judge blocked the Trump administration from terminating \$14 billion in grants to three climate groups.
- 3/25: Federal judge blocked Musk from accessing private data at the Education Department, the Treasury Department and the Office of Personnel Management.
- 3/26: Federal judge ruled Trump must allow people who were conditionally accepted for entry into the US before Trump shut down the nation's refugee admissions system.
- 3/26: Federal judge ruled a Columbia University student cannot be detained by immigration officials for protesting on campus while she fights the Trump administration in court.
- 3/27: Supreme Court upheld a Biden administration regulation on the impossible-to-trace ghost guns, maintaining required serial numbers, background checks and age verification requirements for the kits.
- 3/28: School officials in Maine will not comply with a proposed agreement that would bar transgender athletes from participating in girls' sports.
- 3/28: County clerk in New York refused to file a \$113,000 judgment from a Texas judge against a New York doctor accused of prescribing abortion pills to a woman near Dallas.
- 3/29: Federal judge issued a preliminary injunction blocking Trump administration from dismantling the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, an agency created after the 2008 financial crisis.
- 3/29: Federal judge halted the Trump administration's efforts to dismantle the Voice of America, the 8-decades-old government-funded international news service.
- 4/2: Senator Cory Booker held the Senate floor for over 25 hours railing against Trump's grave threats to the American people and our democracy, reading letters from constituents, assuring us he and his fellow Democrats "see you, hear you and are doing everything they can to contest Trump's agenda."
- 4/3: Trump announced DOGE and Musk's days are numbered when the Department cease to exist when Musk goes back to running his companies after voters in Wisconsin rejected his choice for state Supreme Court with \$21 million in "donations" to influence the election.
- 4/5: Federal judge ordered the Trump administration to return a Maryland man to the US after he was illegally sent to a notorious El Salvador prison despite a previous 2019 ruling that shielded him from deportation.
- 4/6: Democratic candidate for Wisconsin Supreme Court defeated her challenger who was endorsed by Trump and Musk that broke spending records and became a proxy fight for the future political battles.

From Capitol Media Services/ Arizona Daily Star/ Arizona Republic:

- 3/7: Attorney General Mayes filed five lawsuits against the Trump administration to prevent their attempt to freeze payments owed to states; oppose Trump's executive order to limit birthright citizenship; stop DOGE's access to the Treasury Department's payment system; prevent NIH's reduced payments to universities and other research-grant recipients; and invalidate the establishment of the DOGE and the appointment of Musk.
- 3/8: UA launched a program to bridge federal funding gaps and ensure the continuation of research projects; how much money is being invested by whom and for how long were not yet disclosed.
- 3/8: More than 100 people gathered at UA rally to 'Stand up for Science' where professor of law Kirsten Engel pointed out that privately funded science is for profit rather than the greater good, not subject to peer review, and not be available to society as a whole.
- 3/10: Attorney General Mayes issued guidance to K-12 schools and colleges advising them not to allow immigration officials to enter non-public areas on campus and that they must have a valid judicial warrant to seek access to a student while on school grounds.
- 3/10: Pima County Board of Supervisors approved the sale of a two-acre property to a developer to build an 80-unit low-rent and income-restricted housing project that will remain affordable for 30 years.
- 3/14: Republican and Democratic Arizona lawmakers proposed two bills promoting solar and wind energy that will improve economic development in rural areas including La Paz County,
- 3/14: UA ranks 31st in the world in the National Academy of Inventors' list of universities granted utility patents in 2024, including a falloposcope for ovarian cancer detection and a patch that can repair damaged heart tissue.
- 3/15: Senator Kelly announced he sold his Tesla car in protest of Musk's mass layoffs of the federal workforce and disregard for the basic freedoms that make America great and keeps us safe.
- 3/16: Canadian Prime Minister instructed his defense minister to review their purchase agreement to buy 88 F-35 fighter jets at a cost of \$13 billion in response to Trump's trade war and his threats to make Canada our 51st state.
- 3/19: Senator Gallego praised Arizona's investments in ports of entry that pay for themselves through increased trade and job creation, noting the Douglas port of entry is the nexus of \$2 billion in international trade a year and decried Trump's arbitrary trade war Canada and Mexico that only serve to undermine the US economy.
- 3/19: Senator Gallego conducted a town hall at a community health center in Douglas that serves Cochise County's 11 sites where he decried Trump's moves to cut Arizona's Medicaid program.
- 3/19: Senator Gallego attended a town hall in Sierra Vista where he decried Trump's cuts to VA employees which threaten critical service for veterans, noting he cosponsored a resolution demanding reinstatement of 2400 VA employees.
- 3/20: Money for Southwestern water conservation projects protecting Lake Mead and the Colorado River are flowing again after a two-month federal freeze on funding by the Trump Administration.
- 3/20: Senator Kelly met with constituents in South Tucson deriding Trump's attack on Medicaid.
- 3/23: 23,000 people turned out for the Bernie Sanders/Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez in Tucson, 10,000 in Tempe and more than 30,000 in Denver.
- 3/27: Senators Gallego and Kelly call on Defense Secretary Hegseth to resign after he provided details of a pending military strike on Yemeni rebels in an unsecured group chat on Signal.
- 3/30: Construction of a new gated housing development of micro-shelters with fold-up beds, locking doors, heating, AC and storage for Tucson's most vulnerable homeless residents is underway.
- 4/2: Senator Gallego blocked the confirmation of top leaders at the Department of Veterans Affairs who would cut jobs that serves millions of veterans.
- 4/2: Kris Mayes and 22 other state attorneys general sued the Trump administration over its decision to cut \$11 billion in federal funds that from public health projects across the country.

- 4/4: Kris Mayes and other officials from 18 other states filed suit to block an executive order to impose new federal regulations on state elections, an unacceptable and unconstitutional intrusion on states' rights with unlawful and unenforceable provisions
- 4/6: Thousands of protesters rallied in Tucson against Trump's policies as part of over 1200 "Hands Off" demonstrations across all 50 states.

From Run for Something by Amanda Litman:

- 3/10: The desire to fight back keeps growing. Over the weekend, we exceeded 27,000 new candidate sign-ups since Trump won. It's an unprecedented amount of energy with an average of 500 - 600 sign-ups a day.
- 3/10: Last week I joined Rachel Maddow to talk about what we're seeing. Here is a quick 4-minute update at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUyfx4A32TA>
- 3/17: Run for Something's work to bring new people into power has never been more important. And it's working with incredible energy being directed toward fighting for state and local offices.
- 3/17: Today we've exceeded 31,000 new people in the pipeline since the election. That's more than in all of 2017 or 2018 combined.
- 3/25: We hosted our biggest recruitment call ever specifically for laid off federal workers who might want to run for local office. Over 1800 people signed up to learn more about running for office.
- 3/31: We've now exceeded 36,000 new sign-ups since Election Day with new leaders running for office all across the country.
- 4/7: Last week's big elections remind us once again: When we run, we can win. Between the huge Democratic win over Musk & Trump in the Wisconsin state supreme court race and the 14 + 15-point swings in the Florida special election districts that Trump won by 30 points each, we needed this.



Please join us at our in-person monthly meetings in the large meeting room of the Oro Valley Library from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you!

OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS HELP OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!

* Please consider donating some non-perishable food items or making a cash donation to one of our local food banks during this stressful time.

*The Democrats of Oro Valley care about the health and well-being of our community.

* Thanks to all of you who support our brave troops.

**Please donate any of these items to one of our local veterans' groups for distribution: deodorant, shaving items, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pocket novels and puzzle books.*

May Meeting

**Monday, May 12
6:00 -7:30 pm
Oro Valley Library**

**Speaker:
Kevin Volk**

**Topic:
Updates**