



Democrats of Oro Valley

Newsletter
December
2025

NIL CARBORUNDUM ILLEGITIMI

Serving Democrats in Oro Valley and Greater Northwest Tucson
demsov.org • facebook.com/demsov

This administration is pitting our military and intelligence community against American citizens. Our laws are clear. You can and you must refuse illegal orders. Your vigilance is critical. We need you to stand up for our laws, for our constitution, and for who we are as Americans. Don't give up the ship.

Sen. Kelly, Sen. Stokin, and Reps. Crow, Deluzio and Houlihan

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

Dues accepted at: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dovdues>

Donations accepted at: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dovdonate>



Happy Holidays





It's Holiday Party Time



with

*The Democrats of Oro Valley
and David Fitzsimmons*

Monday, December 8, 2025

5 PM to 7 PM



*10180 N. Oracle
Oro Valley, AZ 85737*

Menu:

*Build your own Ground Beef Taco
Mini Chicken Chimis
Chilaquiles (enchilada casserole)
Refried Beans and Spanish Rice
Chips, Salsa and Guacamole
Coffee, Tea and Sodas included
Holiday Cake
Cash bar*

Raffle to benefit the Democrats of Oro Valley

Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

*RSVP by December 4th to
info@demsov.org*

*Cost of \$20 per person
will be collected at the door
Cash or check only please*

Checks payable to Democrats of Oro Valley



Holiday Shopping in a Time of Oligarchs by Dee Maitland

We know the 1% is aggressively urging Trump and Republicans to remove regulations protecting the public from pollution, faulty products, fraud and death. We know their taxes are being cut at the expense of public welfare and monopolies are being allowed in crucial industries such as media, food and energy. With the embrace of Project 2025 even more subtle endorsements of white Christian nationalism and transfers of wealth are being introduced here in Arizona. According to a November 28 article in the Arizona Daily Star:

Representative Nick Kupper is sponsoring House Bill 2004 to provide a new tax credit, a deduction of state taxes up to \$4,000 in the birth year of a child for people who meet certain income restrictions. As stated in the proposed bill, its specific aim is to encourage women in this state to carry their unborn children to full term. According to Arizona's personal income tax return, a family would need an adjusted gross income of over \$200,000 to realize Mr. Kupper's largesse. The goal apparently is to encourage only rich white couples to breed. Although the annual cost of raising a child in Arizona is \$26,624, the deduction would not benefit a family making the state average of \$58,727 annually.

This season let's celebrate Tucson and fight against oligarchy at the same time.

Give experiences instead of gifts from Target or Home Depot, and companies owned by the likes of Bezos (Amazon), Waltons (Walmart), and the tech bros (Apple).

Give memberships to the Desert Museum, Reid Park Zoo, Tohono Chul, or the Tucson Botanical Gardens or tickets to any of our exciting live theaters, the Biosphere, the Loft or local sports events.

Give gift certificates to any of our wonderful restaurants, stays at our dude ranches, or an educational experience from the [University of Arizona Humanities Seminars](#) or the gift of services such as spas, meal delivery or house cleaning.

Shop at our locally owned gift shops, books stores, art galleries and the Western National Parks store here in Oro Valey. And donate to local charities, including the [Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona](#) and [Pima Library Foundation](#) as they do so much for us.

If the billionaires can lease Venice for their wedding, they can pay more taxes. Until then, they do not need one more nickel from us.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Drive

It is time to **take action** for our community neighbors who face food insecurity. This event will support those affected by federal cuts to food aid programs including veterans, military families, seniors, CHILDREN, and the economically vulnerable.

What: nonperishable food & monetary collection for local food bank

When: Saturday, December 13th, from 9 am to 12 noon

Where: Riverfront Park 551 W. Lambert Lane, Oro Valley 85737, between Oracle and La Cañada on the south side of Lambert Lane



We will be set up at Bighorn Ramada.

This event is all-inclusive, festive, and giving. Our message is that EFAP & SNAP cuts are hurting our community. There is a long sidewalk on both sides of the entrance to

Riverfront Park. Sign wavers (with or without inflatables) are encouraged to advertise the food drive and our message. Premade signs (see pictures above) will be available, and homemade signs are welcomed. Please focus signs on the need, the importance to donate, or on food.

We **need 7 volunteers** who are willing to wear our inflatables as they hold up signs. We also **need volunteers** who have their own inflatables to take a shift. We also **need volunteers** to unpack cars. All volunteers please contact Hal at lonestarboy65@gmail.com so that he can organize shifts.

Most of all, we **need a strong turnout**. Tell your friends, family, and neighbors to participate in this worthy endeavor. Please share this event on your social media platforms.

If you have any questions, contact John at: azjam@comcast.net.

This event is sponsored by concerned NW Tucson citizens.

**It's a sad day when
your government
can afford to
zip tie
children...**



**...but it
can't
afford
to feed
them.**

Right
Diet
Graphics

Marana's ICE Detention Center and What You Can Do to Help *by Nancy Musgrave*

As you probably know, there's a new ICE detention center planned for Marana, off Silverbell Road. In October our first public forum, moderated by Supervisor Allen was held to inform the community about the detention center and address their questions. It attracted over 350 people.

Our second forum will be held on Thursday, December 11 at 6:00 pm at Tortolita Middle School, 4101 W. Hardy Road. This forum will again be moderated by Pima County Supervisor Jen Allen. It will provide an update on the detention center and feature expert panelists on immigration, refugee rights and detention centers. There will be information provided on what the organizers against this detention center are doing and what you can do to help them.

One thing you can do is attend the Marana Town Council meetings. The next Town Council meeting is at 6:00 pm, Tuesday, December 16 at the Marana Municipal Complex, 11555 W. Civic Center Dr.

For a fact sheet on Management and Training Corporation that runs ICE detention centers across the U.S. and all the reasons we should oppose the proposed Marana detention center, click on the following link:

[**Management & Training Corporation \(MTC\) Rap Sheet**](#)

Run for Something Candidates Mid-term Election Results & Analysis *by Amanda Litman*

- **144 outright wins across 21 states — of those winners:**
 - Demographics:
 - Women: 50.7% (73)
 - Leaders of color: 46.5% (67)
 - LGBTQIA+: 27.8% (40)
 - Gen Z: 17.4% (25)
 - Renters: 16.0%* (23)
 - Level of office
 - School Board: 24.3% (35)
 - State Legislature: 7.6% (11)
 - Municipal/County: 67.4% (97)
 - Legal: 0.7% (1)
- 10 candidates moved to runoffs - stay tuned for results!

Of those outright wins, **43 were red-to-blue flips**. They were the result of much more than an anti-Trump backlash.

They are a celebration of candidates who are a good fit for the place and people they ran to serve. They are the result of people with lived experiences that resonate with voters and authentic connections to their communities stepping up to lead.

We flipped seats with former Republicans, veterans, housing advocates, moms, dads, teachers, renters, ambitious college students – young people who were done waiting their turn and ready to bring real solutions to the issues their voters feel at a local level.

Some trends we saw that helped propel our red to blue candidates (now elected alums!) to victory:

- **Affordable housing is a winning issue.** While the national establishment is [just catching up on this](#) news, our local candidates have been beating this drum since they filed to run for office.
- **Flip Republican-coded language on its head.** Fiscal responsibility, accountability, students' rights, budgeting with taxpayer dollars in mind, increased support for public safety are all threads found in most of these campaigns. How those policies showed up, however, were rooted in solutions, not aggrievement. As one candidate put it, “prevention, preparation, and compassion– not fear.”
- **Transparency matters.** As trust in politicians and government is at a national all-time low, local candidates inherently understood how tired people are of feeling like the government is not working for them – and bringing decisions, budgets, and policy conversations into the community in modernized ways was central to 90% of the campaigns that flipped seats.

- **Honor the place.** Whether born and raised or transplanted with intention, a love, respect, and understanding for the nature of the place, its history, and its people matters. People vote for people – and people want to have elected officials that genuinely feel like good neighbors.
- **Lived experiences relevant to today’s needs are important.** The candidates that represent RFS flipped seats have real and recent stories that connect to issues many in their communities may face – from growing up in public housing or with food assistance to being caregivers, losing parents, struggling with childcare – having the *first person* accounts to connect the dots between real life and policy impacts resonates.
- **Better sidewalks are a winner – or at least, *represent* a winning idea.** Know the actual community issues. Understand what people are talking about at the local diner counter, grocery store aisle, or school pick up line. Go beyond the typical “tested messages” and dig into the authentic concerns and ways to make life just a little bit easier. And then shape talking points that reflect what you’ve heard.
- **Listen, reflect, respond...** It should be obvious, but most establishment politicians aren’t great at this. People want to be heard, not told what they care about because of a focus group or poll.

[We’ve pulled a full list of all 43 red-to-blue flips you can peruse here.](#)

Run for Something has always been tight on values, flexible on message, and above all else, centered in community.



Election Day 2025 is behind us, and young voters once again proved that organizing works — in Virginia, New Jersey, and across the country. Across campuses and communities, we saw energy, turnout, and a shared commitment to building a better future.

The results we saw made one thing clear: when young voters organize, Democrats win and progress follows. But to sustain that progress, we have to keep building the infrastructure that made it possible. We’re proud of what we accomplished together this year. Now let’s carry that same energy into 2026.

[Can we count on you to chip in today?](#)



Democrats of Oro Valley Community Service Project *by Susan Bickel*

On a delightfully crisp Saturday morning, the Democrats of Oro Valley came out again to keep our 1-mile stretch of La Cholla Boulevard clean. We thank Sue Dalton, Michael Mills, Jim Lombardo, Mitchell Anderson, Mike and Chris Dayton and Susan and Brian Bickel for their work. Afterwards, the workers enjoyed donuts, courtesy of Chris and Mike. (We were assured that they were calorie-free! Hah)

For over eight years, DOV has participated in the Adopt-a-Roadway program. And for over eight years, DOV has been rewarded with an eye-catching blue and white sign with the name of our organization printed for all to see. The next time you travel down La Cholla, watch for it!



Good News for Democracy *compiled by Jacolyn Marshall*



From the Associated Press:

- **11/9:** Democrats dominated mid-term election day, winning governor's races in Virginia and New Jersey; swept state Supreme Court contests in Pennsylvania and ballot measures in Colorado, Maine, and California; and elected New York's first Muslim mayor.
- **11/9:** Seven Houston "Hub Homes" with solar panels and battery systems are providing emergency safe havens for their neighbors during extreme weather disasters and power outages.
- **11/9:** Federal judge ordered authorities to improve a Chicago immigration facility deemed inhumane; a second federal judge ordered agents to refrain from using force against protesters and media personnel.
- **11/9:** A jury found Sean Dunn not guilty of assault for throwing a sandwich at a Border Patrol agent.
- **11/10:** Poland and Romania will deploy a new weapons system to defend against Russian drones following incursions into NATO airspace and Denmark will defend the alliance's eastern flank.
- **11/12:** Chicago's resistance movement that began with whistle blowers alerting their neighbors about ICE agents has grown with others documenting ICE tactics and sheltering and protecting their neighbors..
- **11/14:** Government shutdown ended after 43 days. The compromise bill extends government funding to Jan. 30, a promise to vote on extending health care by mid-Dec., reversal of federal workers' firing, and protects them from further layoffs through Jan. with back pay.
- **11/14:** Adelita Grijalva was sworn in more than seven weeks after winning her seat, signed the petition to release the Epstein files, and called on Congress to do better and restore required checks and balances.
- **11/14:** Nonprofit Public Citizen watchdog group demands that OpenAI withdraw their Sora2 image-generating app that can alter legitimate photos into something fake.
- **11/16:** Supreme Court rejected an appeal to overturn its landmark decision that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide.
- **11/17:** Pope welcomed filmmakers and celebrities to celebrate cinema's ability to inspire and unite, urging them to include marginal voices with its power to console and challenge audiences.
- **11/18:** Melinda Gates awarded \$250 million to more than 80 global nonprofits addressing women's health care all over the world, a part of her \$1 billion commitment to support women's rights.
- **11/21:** Voters in Virginia and New Jersey sent a clear message by electing Democratic governors and legislators who focused primarily on economic issues that led to a sweep for their party in both states.
- **11/22:** EU leaders assured Zelenskyy of their continued support as they scrambled to respond to US peace proposals that contain many of Putin's longstanding demands, including ceding territories.
- **11/23:** US Bankruptcy Court judge ruled the owners of OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma must pay \$7 billion over a 15-year period to settle a flood of lawsuits over the harm opioids have caused.
- **11/24:** More and more states are suing to influence national policy, protect states interests, and block federal overreach; the tally includes wins involving \$132 million in education funding, \$1 billion in federal funding and 63 cases between states and the federal government.

- **11/25:** Federal judge dismissed criminal cases against former FBI Director James Comey and New York AG Letitia James concluding the prosecutor was illegally appointed by the DOJ.
- **11/25:** MacArthur Foundation awarded \$100 million to a pandemic prevention network that created cost-effective tests, monitored outbreaks, and trained 3,000 health workers in 53 of Africa's countries.
- **11/27:** After a yearlong antitrust lawsuit launched during the Biden Administration, the DOJ announced landlords can no longer use RealPage Inc's "algorithmic collusion" to set rent prices.
- **11/28:** Pharmaceutical companies agreed to slash Medicare prices for 15 prescription drugs resulting in billions in savings as mandated by Biden's Medicare drug negotiation law.
- **12/2:** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) markets help trim food waste that accounts for a third of US food supply and reduce greenhouse gases that account for a third of global human-caused emissions.
- **12/2:** Lawmakers from both parties support congressional reviews of US military strikes against vessels in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean over Hegseth's order to kill all of their crew members

From Capitol Media Services/ Arizona Daily Star/ Arizona Republic

- **11/6:** Governor Hobbs blasted officials of the Upper Colorado River Basin states at the National Water Resources Association for refusing to offer curbs on their water use to help save the depleted river
- **11/6:** Tucson voters approved a trio of school budget measures: \$45 million override for teacher salaries, fine arts programs for 14 schools, and funds for a full-time social worker at each TUSD high school.
- **11/7:** Governor Hobbs applied for \$1 billion in federal aid to improve rural health care in all 15 counties and save five Arizona hospitals in Nogales, Bisbee and Globe that are at risk of closing.
- **11/8:** Federal magistrate gave Homeland Security until November 14 to respond to the lawsuit aimed at stopping construction of new walls along the US-Mexico border.
- **11/8:** Project Blue developers pledge to pursue 100% renewable energy for its Pima County data center.
- **11/9:** Pima County supervisors approved \$400 thousand to fund the county's Woman, Infant and Children program in addition to the \$450 million in federal WIC funds previously allocated.
- **11/10:** Arizona Court of Appeals rebuffed a bid by Mohave County Supervisor's claims against AG Mayes on the grounds they do not relate to existing facts.
- **11/10:** Arizona Department of Public Safety will receive a 5% pay increase for troopers as it aims to fill 350 vacancies to address the increases in our population.
- **11/12:** AG Mayes announced Trump's pardon of the 18 people indicted on state charges for conspiring to have 11 fake electors' votes counted in the 2020 election does not deter their prosecution.
- **11/12:** Senators Mark Kelly and Ruben Gallego issued statements against the short-term spending agreement that 8 Senate Democrats approved to end the federal government shutdown.
- **11/12:** Governor Hobbs allocated another \$1.8 million of Covid relief funds to provide SNAP payments.
- **11/13:** Governor Hobbs and legislative leaders of both parties asked US Interior Department to ensure any agreement to curb overuse of Colorado River water requires Upper Basin states to limit their use.

- **11/13:** Colorado River Indian Tribes formally accorded personhood to the Colorado River which now grants them legal rights to protect the river's needs in transactions involving its water.
- **11/14:** Tucson activists continue to protest at Jim Click's auto dealership urging him to rethink his status as Juan Ciscomani's megadonor and his role in aiding and abetting Trump's autocratic control.
- **11/18:** Aviva Children's Services hope to collect new toys and gifts for 2,000 children in foster and kinship care; Youth on Their Own hopes to collect non-perishable food, hygiene items and financial donations for 1,500 homeless and near-homeless students.
- **11/20:** Trump's veneer of invulnerability is cracking as dissatisfaction with the economy, his overhaul of the federal government, deployment of troops in our cities, and his illegal use of the military fester.
- **11/22:** Governor Hobbs and leaders of both parties in the House and Senate urged the Secretary of the Interior to ensure any solution his agency imposes contains measurable and enforceable conservation requirements to make sure AZ water resources remain available.
- **11/23:** AG Mayes will continue to pursue criminal charges against the 11 Republicans who falsely claimed to be legally elected electors after the 2020 presidential race.
- **11/24:** Pima County supervisors voted to double housing density to address housing and water shortages; under the new code projects must utilize renewable water resources
- **11/24:** In October, UA's student-run EMS service handled 112 emergency calls; the students are all EMT certified, available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to respond to calls from students, staff and visitors.
- **11/25:** Toys 4 Hope Car Show want to collect over 2,000 toys for children in need.
- **11/25:** Fleet Feet sponsored Tucson's Teddy Bear Trot to collect bears and monetary donations for the Advocacy Center that serves children and their families who are victims of trauma and abuse.
- **11/25:** State Court of Appeals judges declined to approve the ACC's utility rate hikes on grounds the Arizona Residential Utility Consumer Office should be given the chance to review rate increases.
- **11/25:** Senator Mark Kelly decried the GOP's lack of concern for the safety of five Democrats following Trump's threats of violence against them for reminding the military they are not obligated to obey illegal orders.
- **11/25:** UA announced it will keep tuition at \$12,168 and fees at \$1,738 for in-state undergraduate students steady for the third year in a row to prioritize affordability.
- **11/28:** Pima County Superior Court judges threw out the AUDIT-USA case, noting there was no dispute on which any judge could rule.
- **11/28:** Pima County Supervisors joined a growing list of local jurisdictions in passing a resolution against executive overreach by the Trump administration including an end of birthright citizenship.
- **11/29:** Pima County Supervisors awarded \$1.8 million of opioid settlement funds for a new treatment center; operations begin next month with referrals from EMS, law enforcement, hospitals, and walk-ins.
- **11/29:** Tucson sees a rise in sober scene among young people who are going to non-alcoholic bars and opting for Mocktails brands and redefining what it means to celebrate.
- **12/1:** UA received a five-year \$14.8 million federal grant to research and mitigate health threats of dust from mine tailings, including how arsenic and fungal spores affect lung cells and cause lung disease.

- **12/1:** Annual Christina-Taylor Green Memorial Toy Drive is collecting new toys, books and gift cards citywide through December 14 for children receiving care and treatment at Banner Children's Hospital.
- **12/1:** More than 1,000 nonprofits statewide participated in the day-long Giving Tuesday fundraising event, including the United Way of Tucson that impacts more than 250,000 children and families.
- **12/1:** Mark Kelly along with Senate colleague Slotkin of Michigan and Representatives Crow of Colorado, Deluzio and Houlahan of Pennsylvania, and Goodlander of New Hampshire appeared in a video encouraging service members to refuse unlawful orders.
- **12/1:** Pope Leo visited Istanbul's Blue Mosque to bolster ties with Orthodox patriarchs and promote steps for Eastern and Western churches to be united; his visit was one of spiritual contemplation and deep respect for the place and faith of those gathered there in prayer.

From Run for Something by Amanda Litman

- **11/10:** With 193 of our 222 races called, we're tracking 129 outright wins and 10 candidates moving to run-offs, including **36 red-to-blue flips**. That's a 66% win-rate for Election Day - our highest *ever*.
- **11/10:** Since the election just six days ago, more than 4,000 young people have raised their hands to run for office.
- **11/17:** Among our list of winners so far: **Miranda Schubert, Tucson City Council, Ward 6, Arizona.**
- **11/17:** You may want to [take a few minutes and read HuffPost's deep dive into our program](#) and discover how we've been quietly building a class of candidates who can win everywhere and anywhere.
- **11/17:** The week after the election, more than [5,000 signed up to run for office](#) — including more than 1,200 just after Senate Democrats relented on the budget bill.
- **12/1:** Last week [I published a new piece in Talking Points Memo about how the generational divide in the affordability crisis creates an opening for young leaders: We have to do more than just talk about the costs.](#) We need to talk about what it means when a young person's ability to dream and imagine a better life is cut out from under them.
- **12/1:** **Young candidates can speak to the Affordability Crisis because they're living it.**
- **12/1:** Thanks for making all this possible. As we head into the final month of 2025 and the big push for recruiting for 2026, your support means the world to this mission. [Keep it up!](#)





Please join us at for our **in-person** monthly meeting in the large meeting room of the Oro Valley Library **January 12** from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you!



**OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE BE GENEROUS
HELP OUR LOCAL FOOD
BANK**

* 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.

**SUPPORT OUR
TROOPS!**

* 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.*

**January
Meeting**

**Monday, January 12
6:00 pm**

Guest Speakers:

TBA