



Still, We Must Rise



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There is no way around it, it has been a tough month for Democracy. While we have lost some battles on the voting rights front, we have not lost the war. As ever, we must rise from the ashes of these defeats and fight another day, because our Democracy depends on it.

Voting Rights?

The House of Burgesses, one of the earliest forms of American democracy, was established in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619. It served as a sacred kind of government, approved by the British charter, that allowed Americans to govern and represent themselves. Later, it sparked colonial opposition to Great Britain and pushed colonists toward the American Revolution, helping engrave democracy into the very foundation of the United States, a country where all are meant to pursue life, liberty, and happiness. Despite Virginia's democratic origins, over a week ago the Virginia Supreme Court struck down Virginia's democratically approved redistricting plan. A plan voted for by roughly 52% of Virginian voters that would have given Democrats an advantage. To add insult to injury, the US Supreme Court has now denied the state's emergency appeal of that decision, not

to mention their decision striking down a Louisiana majority Black congressional district because race was considered in drawing it.

Meanwhile, Republican led state governments in Tennessee, Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, and Texas, forced their own Republican biased redistricting maps on their populations, without approval from their electorate. Power, when left unchecked, rarely asks whether it is just. Democracy is not preserved by its name alone, but by the courage to question who speaks for the people and who is silenced. In the end, the strength of a nation is measured not by the maps it draws, but by the fairness with which it draws them. This is why we must continue doing the work we do. While things are getting harder right now, we can't stop and we won't stop until that more perfect union we were promised becomes a reality.

Trump's Impact on Santa Clara County's Bottom Line

No matter where you look in the county, it is budget season and thanks to the current administration, belts are tightening all over. Whether it is the drastic cuts to the ACA, Medicare and SNAP brought on by the passage of H.R.1 or the cost increases brought on by both the tariffs and Iran War, local municipalities and citizens are forced to make really tough decisions. Gone are the COVID dollars and a federal government that cared about everyday citizens. No matter how you look at it, no one is #winning.

That being said, your local Democratic leaders are working hard to make sure the most underserved are served with less resources to do so. While the County Executive and the Board of Supervisors, alone have to cut [\\$750 million](#) from their budget to remain solvent and still serve its people, they are doing so while trying to strengthen the safety net and protect the essential services that Santa Clara County families depend on. The county office of education, local cities and local school districts are also facing similar struggles, but are always keeping in mind what is best for their communities and/or the students they serve. If you haven't already, thank a local elected and public staff working through the impossible on the front lines.

Help Us Save Democracy by Voting!

California's June 2, 2026 primary is fast approaching. You should have already received your ballots. Need helping deciding who and what to vote for? Check out the SCCDP's endorsements below.



Endorsed

Secretary of State: Shirley Weber
Attorney General: Rob Bonta
Controller: Mahlia Cohen

Congress

Sam Liccardo (CA 16)
Ro Khanna (CA 17)
Zoe Lofgren (CA 18)
Jimmy Panetta (CA 19)

State Assembly

Marc Berman (AD 23)
Alex Lee (AD 24)
Ash Kalra (AD 25)
Patrick Ahrens (AD 26)
Gail Pellerin (AD 28)
Robert Rivas (AD 29)

County

Sylvia Arenas (D1)
Susan Ellenberg (D4)

San José

Rosemary Kamei (D1)
Anthony Tordillos (D3)
Peter Ortiz (D5)
Rafael Garcia OR
HG Nguyen (D7)
Gordon Chester (D9)

"Yes" on Measures
A, B, C, and D

Board of Equalization District 2: Sally Lieber

No Consensus Reached on Races not Listed

Under the Radar

The GOP is a corrupt mess, awash in market manipulation, conflicts of interests, and stealing **our** taxes. Here's some things you may have missed.

- Trump is pressuring spineless Republicans to fund his ballroom with your money. What is it with the Epstein Class and ballrooms? <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/inside-congress/2026/05/12/trump-officials-pitch-gop-on-ballroom-funds-00915766>
- Experts are raising conflict-of-interest and ethical concerns after President Donald Trump hosted a LIV Golf event. https://www.cnn.com/2026/05/10/politics/trump-golf-courses-conflict-of-interest?source=sub_web_wall-met
- Online sleuths are raising more red flags around suspiciously timed Iran-war oil trades. <https://www.businessinsider.com/oil-us-iran-peace-war-news-latest-short-markets-2026-5>
- Trump ignores real crime (like the one he and his family commit) to pursue his critics. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2026-05-05/a-probe-of-trump-foes-upends-justice-department-hub-in-miami>

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