



Democracy In Action - Our Forum Recap



On March 18th, Progress Grove City hosted what we believe was one of the most meaningful civic events our community has seen in a long time — and we are so grateful to everyone who made it possible.

Ohio State Senate District 3 candidates Stacie Baker and Natasha Wheatley-Caffrey faced off in a structured forum and debate, giving our community a real, substantive look at who's running to represent us. U.S. Congress OH-15 candidate Don Leonard joined us for his own forum — and what started as a structured Q&A organically became a genuine townhall when the audience jumped in with their own questions. That kind of unplanned, real conversation is exactly what civic engagement is supposed to look like.

We livestreamed the entire event to our private group, and the recordings are linked below along with the candidate questionnaires each participant filled out ahead of time — so you can revisit, share, and make informed decisions.

📺 Watch the videos [here](#)

📄 Candidate questionnaires [here](#)

None of this happens without a community willing to show up, ask hard questions, and take local democracy seriously. Thank you to our incredible candidates for their time and candor, and thank you to every single person who came out, tuned in, or spread the word. Grove City showed up.

[Visit Our Website](#)

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Grove City Shows Up - No Kings 3.0 Recap

We keep showing up. And every single time, there are more of us. When our first protest was organized right here in our little town, 35 people came. Thirty-five. It felt significant then — because it was. Then came the second, and the crowd more than doubled. For our third No Kings protest, around **800 people** packed into Grove City to make their voices heard — that same incredible energy, that same sea of neighbors choosing to show up, sustained and strong.

We didn't expect to be writing this part.

U.S. Congressional candidate **Don Leonard** - who has spoken at our previous protests without incident - addressed the crowd with a bullhorn from the back of a pickup truck. As officers approached, he was already stepping down and setting the bullhorn on the tailgate. Cooperative and calm, hands in his pockets the entire time. This is documented in multiple videos, from multiple angles.

Officers initially took his ID in what appeared to be a routine stop. Then a sergeant arrived

and asked Don to move to a more private location to continue the conversation. Don said he was happy to talk - right there, in front of everyone. That's when he was handcuffed and placed under arrest. In front of approximately 800 people.

Between five and seven additional police cruisers arrived on scene with lights - into a crowd of hundreds - for a man who never raised his hands.

We're not going to editorialize beyond the facts. There is no shortage of footage. Head to our public group, where members have shared videos from multiple angles and vantage points. Draw your own conclusions.

What we will say is this: we showed up. All 800 of us. And we'll keep showing up, because that's exactly what this moment calls for, and it's what we believe in.

Every protest, we meet someone new. Someone who's never done anything like this before, who's been quietly looking for exactly this. You are why we keep going. There is always room for one more voice.



Come As You Are - Welcome Night Recap



We recently kicked off something we hope becomes one of our favorite recurring traditions: Welcome Night.

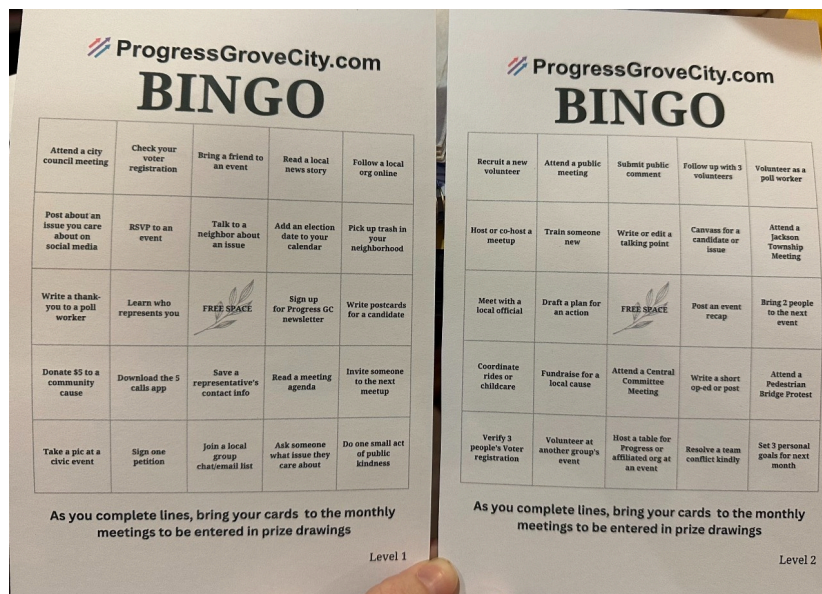
The idea was simple. Newer members of Progress Grove City deserved a space that was genuinely theirs. Not a volunteer recruitment pitch, not an overwhelming intro to everything we do, just a relaxed evening to meet some faces, have some real conversations, and leave feeling like they belonged to something real.

From what we can tell, that's exactly what happened.

Core members and Kindness Crew reps were on hand, Neighbors Helping Neighbors stopped by to share how they're making a difference, and a Community Bingo card gave folks easy, low-stakes ways to start engaging locally. Most importantly, the conversations were just... good. The kind where you look up and realize an hour has passed.

We'll keep hosting these quarterly, and if you missed this one, we hope you'll make it to the next. No pressure, and no agenda. Just good people who are genuinely glad you're here.

Civic Engagement Bingo



We've been working on something fun that we think captures what Progress Grove City is all about: meeting people where they are, making civic engagement accessible, and celebrating the fact that every action counts.

Say hello to our Civic Engagement Bingo Cards - and yes, there are prizes.

We have two levels:

● Beginner Level - Think: read a local news article, subscribe to our newsletter, share something with a friend. Genuinely doable, genuinely meaningful.

● Advanced Level - Think: speak at city council, attend a protest, get more involved in your community in ways that stretch you a little.

Here's how it works: bring your completed bingo card to any monthly meeting and you'll be entered into a prize drawing. Every completed line = one entry. We'll be drawing one prize per level, and prizes include Progress shirts, gift cards to local businesses, and more goodies we're collecting from our community.

Which brings us to our ask: do you own or know a small business that would donate a prize? We would love to spotlight local businesses who support civic engagement, and your contribution goes directly to rewarding neighbors for showing up for their community. We'd also love and appreciate donations of gift cards for local businesses! Reach out if you're interested - we'd be so grateful.

Meet The Kindness Crew

EARTH DAY

Community Clean Up

9:45 - NOON
APRIL
18



Join the **PGC Kindness Crew** for our April event to celebrate Earth Day as we partner with **Clear Creeks and Byways** for a Community Clean Up at **Scioto Grove Metropark**.

We'll meet up at the Hickory Picnic Area Shelter at 9:45 to collect litter along the REI Trail. Around noon we'll gather back together for a cook-out!

For more info and to RSVP, please visit:

<https://bit.ly/KCEarthDayRSVP>

Scioto Grove Metro Park: 5172 Jackson Pike, Grove City, OH

GLOVES & BAGS PROVIDED

Small actions make a big difference!

#PGCKINDNESSCREW

PROGRESS
GROVE CITY

The PGC Kindness Crew is a new Progress Grove City initiative created to help spread kindness, foster unity, and make our community brighter. Rooted in the belief that kindness is a powerful form of action, we encourage neighbors to show what care and connection look like in real, everyday ways. In times when systems can feel harsh or divided, choosing kindness is a meaningful and radical act. Kindness doesn't mean staying quiet or ignoring injustice—it's how we show up for one another while working toward a better community for all.

We officially kicked things off in February with our Kindness Rocks event, paired with a daily kindness challenge leading up to Random Acts of Kindness Day. The response was incredible, with so many community members participating, sharing, and spreading positivity throughout Grove City.

In March, we hosted Seeds of Kindness, where participants painted flower pots and took home milkweed seeds to plant—an act of kindness not just for each other, but for our butterflies and local ecosystem. It was a beautiful reminder that kindness can extend to the earth around us, helping nurture the environment we all share.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for April 18th! In honor of Earth Day, we are partnering with Clear Creeks and Byways for a community clean-up event. More details are coming soon, but we're excited to continue showing how caring for our planet is another powerful way to practice kindness.

We also have something new brewing that you won't want to miss—a second monthly event centered around the idea that kindness is connection. Stay tuned for more details!

You can follow along and stay updated on all our events and initiatives on Facebook [here](#) or reach out to us at kindnesscrew@progressgrovecity.com.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Kindness Crew so far. Together, we're building something truly special—one act of kindness at a time.

Exciting News!



We have some news we're SO excited about: Progress Grove City has joined the Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce, and through that partnership, we will be hosting the very first voter registration booth at the Grove City Farmers Market.

This is a big deal for our community, and we want to be clear about what it is and what it isn't. Our presence at the market will be strictly nonpartisan and educational. No candidates, no issues, no agenda. Just resources.

We'll be helping community members:

- Check their voter registration status
- Register to vote
- Request an absentee ballot
- Find their personalized sample ballot
- Access other official election resources

Access to accurate voting information should be available to everyone, regardless of party or politics. We're proud to be the ones bringing it to our farmers market, and we're grateful to the Chamber for making this possible.

More details on dates coming soon. Stay tuned.

Five Minute Activism



★ Designed by TownMapsUSA.com

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Big change starts in small conversations, and some of our own members are already making that happen.

Several Progress Grove City members have taken the initiative to start independent, nonpartisan ward and township groups right here in our community. These groups aren't affiliated with Progress Grove City - they're open to everyone in that ward, regardless of background or politics. The whole point is to bring neighbors together around the conversations that matter most locally: things like the community center, the data center, and

other decisions shaping daily life in Grove City.

We're simply encouraging you to find the group for your ward or township, join in, and engage in genuine civic conversation with your neighbors. All voices belong at that table, and the more people show up, the stronger that table gets.

Find your ward or township group and introduce yourself. Your neighbors are already talking. Come be part of it.

JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST DATA CENTERS

A grassroots coalition called Ohio Residents for Responsible Development is working to place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot that would ban the construction of large data centers (those using more than 25 megawatts of power) in Ohio. The Ohio Ballot Board unanimously certified the proposal on April 3, and signature gathering is now underway.

Large data centers consume as much electricity as 20,000-25,000 homes and threaten rural communities, farmland, and natural resources across the state. Supporters need over 413,000 valid signatures from at least 44 counties by July 1 and they're relying entirely on volunteers to get it done.

This is a bipartisan issue that affects every Ohioan. Progress Grove City will have petitions available at our upcoming events, so come out and sign! You can also visit ConserveOhio.com to learn more or find other signing opportunities in your county.

Next Up...

PROGRESS
2026

**PROGRESS
GROVE CITY**

**SAVE THE DATE
&
AGENDA
COMING
SOON**

APRIL 26, 2026
REGISTER ON WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK

As usual, we will have some great info to share with you! Bring a friend, and RSVP [here!](#)

Join Our Partners In Action

If you're eager to make a significant impact in your community, consider taking action now. It's time to address the issues that matter to you and express your concerns about leadership. Our friends with Indivisible Central Ohio are planning in person visit's to Senator Moreno's office. Please consider joining them to share your thoughts and help drive meaningful change! You can find the sign up sheet at [this link](#).

Thanks everyone!!



ProgressGroveCity.com



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