



# The Voter

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**For voting information:**

Go to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org)

Call the help line: **505-982-9766**

Visit our website: [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org)

## From the Editors

### Vote...and Vote Smart!

We hear it so many times: “My vote doesn’t matter.” And yet, a surprising number of elections have hung on just one or only a handful of votes.



*Kelly Davis (l), VP of Voter Registration and Education; and Stephanie Schlanger, VP of Public Relations and Communications*

We all remember, of course, the 2000 General Election, where George W. Bush won Florida by 537 votes out of 6 million, allowing him to take the Electoral College. But did you know that in 2016 a Vermont State Senate Democratic primary was determined by a single vote out of more than 7,400 cast? Or that in the same year in New Mexico, the 29<sup>th</sup> District State House seat was won by two votes out of nearly 14,000? Overall, according to NPR, over a dozen races have been decided by a single vote or have ended in a tie in the last twenty years.

Finally, in this centennial year of the women’s right to vote, we have to remember the squeaker that was the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment: on August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the 36<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the amendment by ONE vote—cast by a young man named Harry Burn, who had been instructed at the last minute by his mother not to forget to “help Mrs. Catt.”

While we’re grateful for Harry Burn’s vote, he is the very definition of a uninformed voter. In this case, voting for women’s suffrage was the right thing to do. But when people vote on a whim and not for informed reasons, our democratic process is degraded.

Voting is our voice, so we always must be mindful of the responsibility that comes with it. We have a civic responsibility to make informed decisions when we vote. The challenge is to find accurate information while being mindful of our prejudices.

*(Continued on next page)*

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“Red flags” we need to be aware of in election information include:

- *Political rhetoric* — the art of persuasion or strategies used in politics to create persuasive arguments
- *Political symbols*—an effective strategy because of their ambiguity
- *Buzz words* such as “freedom,” “justice,” “liberty” and other terms that evoke emotion.
- *Campaign ad strategies* such as “bio ads” designed to develop a candidate’s image; “attack ads” pointing out negative characteristics of the opponent; “response ads” that refute the attack ads from the opponent; and “issue-framing ads” that present an issue in such a way that the audience agrees with the candidate.

Awareness of campaign strategies is the voter’s responsibility.

When conducting research on candidates and issues, be sure to: 1) Use reliable sources such as the League’s Voter Guide accessible online at [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) starting Sept. 15; 2) Be an active listener/researcher; and 3) Avoid cynicism.

The more people vote, the healthier our democracy becomes. At the end of the day, “We the People” hold the power.

First Time Voter Checklist:  
<https://www.vote411.org/first-time-voter-checklist>

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## **November 3, 2020 Election Countdown!**

**In the Midst of a Coronavirus  
Pandemic, How Do We Ensure that  
Every Citizen Can Safely Vote and  
that Every Vote Counts?**

**The League of Women Voters  
of Santa Fe County Is Ready!**

### **We Need Your Help**

Please support the LWVSFC’s efforts during the countdown to the 2020 General Election by making a tax-deductible donation. A list of donors to this high-priority campaign will be published prior to the election.

- Donate online at: [www.lwvsfc.org/donate](http://www.lwvsfc.org/donate)
- Donate by mail to: 1925 Camino Lumbre, Santa Fe, NM 87505

#### **Many thanks to:**

- Ambassador Mark and Jane Asquino**  
**Daniel and Martha Barnes**  
**Valerie Brooker**  
**Caroline Burnett**  
**Cecilia Dunne**  
**Melissa Epple**  
**Lisa Fisher**  
**Carole and James Garland**  
**Douglas Gruenau and Brad Richardson**  
**Liz Gutierrez and Richard Schoegler**  
**Jane Hanna**  
**Thomas Hirons**  
**Wendy and Sam Hitt**  
**Gisela Knight**  
**Berit Leonard**  
**Marcy and Bill Litzenberg**  
**Randi Lowenthal**  
**Esther Milnes**  
**Margery Odell**  
**John and Elizabeth Rodgers**  
**Stephanie Schlanger**  
**Sarah Schlanger**  
**Martha Simonsen**  
**Alan Webber and Frances Diemoz**  
**Miguel and Deborah Weiss-Grunstein**  
**Elizabeth West**  
**Bruce Wollens and Liza Coward**

## Voting in the Time of COVID

What a year for an election. First COVID, and then a consequential general election that will be impacted by an unstable mail delivery system. I am hesitant to say what else could go wrong because I may find out.

But challenges can be opportunities—opportunities to design a new and possibly better system to reach voters. Incorporating social media platforms, flyers at distribution sites, links to hospital TV monitors and more have increased the number people we are able to reach.

The “how to” question is answered in the in a flyer developed by Laura Atkins, a member of the state and local leagues, with detailed information on what you need to know to vote. It’s available on our website on the [“Voter Services”](#) page.

The unique huge challenge this voting season is to help voters stay safe when they vote. This plan on the right and more information can be found at [NMvote.org](http://NMvote.org).

### Take Note

The Center for Voter Information, a non-profit based in Washington DC, has mailed out applications for absentee ballots to many New Mexico residents. The center is a legitimate organization, and you can return the application to the Santa Fe County Clerk at 100 Catron Street, Santa Fe 87501.

If you prefer to wait for your application from the Santa Fe County Clerk, *applications* will be mailed out beginning September 15 to all Santa Fe County registered voters.

Either option will get you a mail-in ballot. The Santa Fe County Clerk will begin sending out *ballots* October 6.

You may also go on-line to request an application from the Secretary of State’s Office: <https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/OVR/WebPages/AbsenteeApplication.aspx?type=RA>

## Make a “Safe Voter” Plan

**Register to Vote.** If possible register online. Your application will get processed more quickly.

**Check your voter registration information.** Your file contains contact information, voting history and access to the status of your absentee ballot application and your ballot.

**Decide how you want to vote: Absentee/ Mail-in OR In-person**

If you choose to vote absentee/mail in (the safest in these times) you will have to complete an application for an absentee ballot. There are several options: you will automatically receive an application from the County Clerk around September 14th, or you can go apply online, or download one and mail it to the county clerk, or complete and mail the application from the Center for Voter Information. You can track the status of your application on your voter information screen at [NMvote.org](http://NMvote.org)

**When you receive your ballot, complete it right away.** Pay special attention to the ballot instructions.

**If you choose to vote in person you can vote at:**

- The County Clerk’s Office starting Oct. 6
- An early voting site starting Oct. 17
- A Convenience Center on Nov. 3.

**Follow the COVID safety tips** for in person voting.

**Check if you have all required documents** before you go to vote.

**Review your sample ballot** before going to the polls.

**Wear a mask, maintain 6 feet of distance, use hand sanitizer.**

**Select a time to vote** when there is less traffic.

**Remember to:**

- Vote Early
- Be Flexible—Have a back-up plan
- Study the League’s *Voter Guide* for candidate information (available on [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) starting Sept. 15)

## Reflections of a Young Voter



*First-time voter  
Campbell Leonard*

If there's one thing that every person in America between the ages of 13 and 20 has heard from adults, it's something along the lines of, "Your generation will save us all!" I believe I speak for most young Americans when I say that we are well aware of this.

The tedious task of opening the world, shaking the contents out, and reimagining how it all fits together is something most 18-year-olds embarked upon during our freshman year. Looking back at 2016 and thinking about the shifts our country has experienced in every facet of society is jarring when I realize that it all happened while I was shouldering my way through high school. I came of age alongside movements such as Black Lives Matter, March for Our Lives, and the renewed fight against climate change—to name a few. None of these issues are new to the world—but young Americans are.

I have always understood voting to be a privilege. Even though my peers and I have not been able to engage with our leaders through voting until now, we haven't wasted time twiddling our thumbs and awaiting our eighteenth birthday. Some of us organized walkouts and die-ins, others wrote bills with senators to implement green infrastructure or created clothing drives for immigrants in El Paso. Civic engagement isn't just a ballot; it's taking whatever you've got—whether it's a cell phone, your religious community, or a cardboard sign—and using it to start a conversation. The difference for those of us who can now proudly wear a sticker that reads, "I Voted," is that we now have a say in who has those conversations with us.

When I spoke to my friend Emma Lawrence, we discussed the significance of voting in that it literally decides who holds power. Lawrence sees civic engagement as

both utilizing one's voice and holding accountable our elected leaders. As we talked about the burden we feel as first-time voters during these times, she mentioned the stark contrast between our generation's upbringing as progressive change-makers and the stagnant systems of power that remain in our society, as evidenced by young Americans' support for the Black Lives Matter movement. She sees a gap between older generations' belief that the youth can change everything and their own willingness to participate in dismantling these systems that have never served America's future.

“Even though my peers and I have not been able to engage with our leaders through voting until now, we haven't wasted time twiddling our thumbs and awaiting our 18th birthday.”

Some of my peers, I'm sure, have become disillusioned with this country, and don't feel that their vote matters. I would urge those people to remember that as long as you can vote, you are running the table. Every youth vote in this election is a vote for the future. Each and every action that we have taken in our communities has been an action for our future. We've been working towards this election for years, as the work is part of who our generation is. Even though we've been fueling the conversation at the table this whole time, now is our chance to take a seat.

—Campbell Leonard

Hear other first-time women voters speak out:

American Experience: “The Inheritors” <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/vote-inheritors/>

## Getting Out the Youth Vote

High School Program Co-chairs **Anne Culp** and **Randi Lowenthal** have launched a student voter registration and education program for 2020-21 with the goal of getting over 600 students registered to vote by October 5.

They have sent Santa Fe area high school teachers resources to help meet this goal—and six teachers across eight high schools have accepted the challenge!

This year our youth LWVSFC member is **Campbell Leonard**. She and fellow student **Cody Babcock** will be communicating with and organizing high school voter registration agents (VRAs) via social media.

The plans for high school student voter registration are teacher driven, not League driven. So, the teachers design their own voter registration process. Several teachers are starting in late August, some in September. The League *provides resources* but does not dictate a plan.

As far as recruiting student leaders to become VRAs, we, again, will give the teachers ideas and resources; but the teachers decide what is best for the students. Each teacher recruits one to four students to become trained as voter registrants knowing the students are committed to voting. Fortunately for the VRAs, training and registration are available online. The students vary in their commitment levels: they may help fellow students register online, help with voter education and motivation, attend the Capital Building activities (probably not likely this year), help write voter educational materials, engage in social media, and other implement ideas that the students generate.

One of the resources Anne and Randi have recommended to teachers and students is the book *Youth to Power*, published this June and written by young author Jamie Margolin, who wrote most of the book while she was in high school. She has several motivating examples of high school students who advocated for change and won. Jamie

describes the steps to take for community involvement. Students interested in political science will find this a quick and meaningful read. Link: [https://www.google.com/books/edition/Youth\\_to\\_Power/cqa0DwAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=0](https://www.google.com/books/edition/Youth_to_Power/cqa0DwAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=0).

This high school effort is an exciting initiative for LWVSFC and a crucial one given this election year. Power to our young voters!

Read more about the youth vote:

“Why We Need Young Voters”  
<https://www.thebestcolleges.org/9-reasons-we-need-young-voters-more-than-ever/>

Click on the videos below for more on the youth vote:



What Would Get Young People to Vote?  
 PBS Newshour  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7UP7jfCDiE>



Youth Voter Turnout: Why Is It So Low?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p25BMBVGd0E>

## From Student to Citizen: Engaging Teens in Democracy



*High school history teacher  
Joaquin Martinez*

Perhaps “We” is the most important word in the U.S. Constitution. It illustrates that our government exercises its power at the behest of its people. As a social studies teacher, I am obligated to teach my students how to create and maintain a close relationship with their government as it is a reflection of them and works on behalf of those whose voices are heard.

Throughout the course of the year, my students analyze the issues facing the nation and our state through research and Socratic Seminar. After developing opinions based on facts, science, and logic, the students then voice their concerns in a variety of ways.

“It was a joy to see both the students and politicians energized by each others’ work.”

This year, after interpreting President Obama’s first inaugural speech and contrasting it with a more recent inaugural speech, the students were compelled to submit op-eds which addressed various social, economic, environmental, health and cultural issues. Several were published in the *Santa Fe New Mexican* and one was published in the *Albuquerque Journal*.

In addition to writing to the media, the students and I annually attend Opening Day of the State Legislature, where the students hand delivered letters to the governor and

legislators that expressed their well-researched support of or opposition to bills about which they felt strongly. This project has inspired students to choose majors in Political Science, to begin work on political campaigns and to engage in other areas of government and politics.

It is such a joy to see both the students and politicians so energized by each other's commitment to the people’s work. The students also often receive hand-written notes of gratitude from the legislators, which serve as more inspiration to nurture this relationship between the students and their government. Through this relationship, the students have truly begun to embody the fact that *we* are the people for whom the Constitution was written.

—Joaquin Martinez

*Joaquin Martinez was born in Santa Fe and graduated from UNM with a degree in Cultural Analysis. He began his teaching career at De Vargas Middle School and subsequently became a Clinical Supervisor for the UNM-SFPS Teacher Intern Program. He then taught at Freies Gymnasium in Basel, Switzerland for 10 years before returning to Santa Fe to teach at The Academy for Technology and the Classics, where he has been teaching AP Government and Politics, AP Psychology, US History, NM History and ELD for the last four years.*



*Joaquin Martinez’s students with Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham at the Legislature in February 2020.*

## Youth in Action: Meet LWVSFC's New Student Interns



Ivanna Hernandez (r)  
and mentor Stephanie  
Schlanger

*Ivanna Hernandez is doing her internship in conjunction with her practicum for her Master's in Social Work from Highlands University. She will be assisting PR/ Communications VP Stephanie Schlanger with social media, the website and the VOTER; in addition she will be attending JEDI meetings and participating in some*

*of those activities. She recently participated in creating a public service announcement for LWVSFC.*

"I am 23 years old and was raised in Santa Fe, NM. My mom is from Mexico and my dad is from Honduras. I am the oldest of my siblings and I have two younger brothers.

"I graduated with my Bachelor of Arts with a double major in Psychology and Anthropology from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. After graduation, I moved back to New Mexico, and I am now a second year Master of Social Work student at New Mexico Highlands. I work as a behavior technician, and I also work as a health screener at the hospital.

"I joined the League because I want to learn more about voting and how to help educate others around me. Being here in NM, my biggest issue has been how many families lack knowledge of resources available to them, and many don't know where to go when in need of help. Many also feel that they are not worthy enough and therefore keep silent.

"I am excited to learn about the League and about how to help my community and educate them— especially because every voice matters and people should know this."



Campbell Leonard (r) and  
mentor Anne Culp

*Campbell Leonard graduated from Santa Fe Prep in 2020. She decided to take a gap year from Williams College and volunteer as an intern with the League. Working with Anne Culp, the high school*

*registration chair, and Randi Lowenthal, Campbell is part of a team creating an online voter registration program for high school students in the days of COVID-19. She will also be help the League recruit young people to become League members.*

"My parents and my two older sisters moved to Santa Fe from Vermont 21 years ago for my dad to start his new job as Head of School at Santa Fe Prep; and I was born here a few years later. I was raised for the most part in the outdoors, and I spent most of my childhood hiking, skiing, biking, playing sports, and going to school in between.

"My senior history teacher, Nick Wirth, floated the possibility of my becoming a voter registrar to my class, and I saw it as a unique opportunity to serve the city of Santa Fe by helping to rally younger citizens to get involved in the upcoming election.

"The environment has always been at the forefront of my activism. The issues of inequality and poverty are and always have been tied to environmental safety in our state and in this country; intertwined with environmental justice is justice for missing and murdered Indigenous women, and connected to that is gun safety, police brutality, homelessness, and access to healthcare and education. The mobilization of all of these issues starts at the grassroots level, not only with the people who are affected by them but also with those who are paying attention, and thus the core of the solution to these problems is the people of Santa Fe and how far we are willing to go for our community. The easiest place to start for every single person of age is to vote."

## What Happened to the ERA?

In April, Hulu/FX released the miniseries *Mrs. America*, tracing the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment in the 1970s. This period drama is remarkable for its



Dr. Kate Lehman

multifaceted portrayal of female activists on both sides of the ERA debate. Past the disco-infused opening credits, we find themes relevant to today, when women are running for office, combatting workplace harassment, and protesting for racial justice. One question at stake in the ERA debate—can women be equal workers as well as wives and mothers? – still resonates in 2020, when many working women face increased childcare demands due to Covid-19.

The series begins in 1972, when the Equal Rights Amendment had passed Congress and was awaiting ratification by the states. Conservative activist Phyllis Schlafly (Cate Blanchett) mobilizes a grassroots campaign to defeat the amendment, lobbying lawmakers and insisting the ERA devalues homemakers. Schlafly herself has suffered sexism, as her husband discourages her political ambitions and male lawmakers ignore her expertise on nuclear strategy. She gains power by representing the unsung housewife, even as she and her supporters make careers as activists. *Mrs. America* reminds us that the ERA debate was about more than gender: Schlafly attracts allies from white supremacist groups, and her campaign supports the rise of the Religious Right. As the Republican party becomes more conservative and ideologically rigid, it drives out pro-choice, pro-ERA feminists such as Jill Ruckelshaus, who used to feel at home there.

On the pro-ERA side are feminist luminaries Gloria Steinem, Betty Friedan, and Bella Abzug, as well as trailblazers such as Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American candidate for president. Although they admired her, some white feminists didn't fully throw their support behind Chisholm in 1972, feeling George

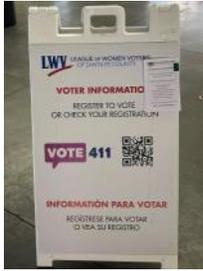
McGovern's campaign gave them greater influence on national politics. Chisholm's candidacy is one of one of many points of tension explored in *Mrs. America*: we watch as both women of color and lesbian women fight to be heard in the editorial offices of *Ms. Magazine* and the 1977 National Women's Conference.

*Mrs. America* ends on a somber note, as the Equal Rights Amendment is defeated, the fiery Abzug is dismissed from Carter's women's commission, and even Schlafly fails to obtain a cabinet position under Reagan. The series reminds us of recent attempts to revive the ERA and laments that feminists never again achieved such a central role in American politics. However, *Mrs. America* tells a less dramatic tale of progress, as Schlafly's friend and co-organizer Alice (a fictional composite character) abandons her rigid anti-ERA stance after connecting with liberal activists at the national conference.

*Mrs. America* is an important source of historical memory and political dialogue. But does it tell the whole truth? Steinem refuses to watch the series, arguing that it gives far too much power to Schlafly and emphasizes "catfights" among women. The ERA, she claims, was defeated by broader commercial and political forces. Other historians argue that the series minimizes Steinem's and Abzug's radicalism, showing them as reluctant to address race and LGBTQ issues when in fact they were early advocates for inclusion.

While I enjoyed *Mrs. America*, I agree it shouldn't place feminist political activism in past tense. The ERA may have stalled, but feminist organizing is still happening in the workplace and the polls. And feminist legacies live on in the rise of Sen. Kamala Harris, who mentioned Shirley Chisholm and other predecessors when she agreed to run for Vice President.

*Dr. Kate Lehman is an Associate Professor of Communications at Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania, specializing in Film and Television studies, Journalism, and Gender and Sexuality studies. She has written several books including: Those Girls: Single Women in Sixties and Seventies Popular Culture and numerous research articles. Kate can be contacted at: [klehman@albright.edu](mailto:klehman@albright.edu)*



## Voter Services Report: Registration and Education

August 2020

- **Posters and Flyers**

The posters and flyers created in July are in the process of being edited. One of the two posters used for “events” such as Farmers Markets includes reference to Vote 411 and the site’s QR code. The QR code and Vote 411 reference will remain. The September “issues” will emphasize information on Absentee Ballot applications and encouraging people to vote early.

- **Voter Information**

As reported In July, flyers were emailed to NAACP, NOW, AAUW, Indivisible, houses of worship, Constant Contact, friends and League’s Social Media platform. In August the same flyers were emailed to senior residences. All flyers include the League’s help line phone number. There will be another distribution of the revised flyers in September.

- **Santa Fe Food Depot**

Santa Fe Food Depot continued to distribute the League flyers on Thursdays and Saturdays. There have been a total of 3500 flyers distributed during July and August.

- **St John’s Methodist Church**

St. John’s Methodist Church will begin distributing League flyers at their Tuesday food pantry. There are approximately 165 cars served at the site.

- **Farmers Markets**

Both the Saturday Santa Fe and Tuesday South Farmers Markets have the League’s event poster and flyers displayed. We are not allowed to staff the display, but the staff at the markets have been very accommodating in watching over the display.

- **St Vincent Hospital**

St Vincent Hospital agreed to post the League’s Voter Information notice (using

Vote411 as the go to site) on all TV monitors in the hospital and in the clinics. In addition, they are including the notice in the hospital’s newsletter that is sent to their 2200 employees.

- **Help Line**

The Voter Services-Registration & Education Help Line was activated at the end of July.

There has been an increase in calls (four or five a day) in the last couple of days. Callers want to know where they can register, how to apply for an absentee ballot application, what is the Center for Voter Information, etc. A brief explanation of the Center is posted on the League’s social media platform. Many callers are grateful for the Help Line since they can get answers quickly. We are keeping a detailed record of Help Line the calls.

- **National Voter Registration Day**

The League is registered to participate in the National Voter Registration Day (NVRD). There will be posters and flyers sent by the NVRD. Last year we set up voter registration at schools, malls and groceries stores. Plans have not been developed for this year.

- **Student Intern**

Student VRA **Campbell Leonard**, who is taking a gap year, has volunteered to do voter registration. She will be working with Anne Culp, assisting with the League’s high school project.

- **High School Civic Project**

**Anne Culp** has sent a letter to the high school Lead Teachers she worked with last year. She is developing materials (curriculum, videos, etc.) for the teachers and students on voting. Campbell will play a major role in all these activities.

—*Kelly Davis, VP*



*SF Farmers Market staff keeping an eye on the LWVSFC voter registration information sandwich board.*



## Action and Advocacy Report

August 2020

Highlights from the August 2, 2020, A&A Zoom meeting include:

—Hannah Burling is coordinating phone banking for the County to encourage people to complete the Census. The effort will continue through September. Volunteers are welcome.

—The committee sent a letter to the Mayor and City Manager on July 22 listing 1) several issues with inconsistent information about making public comments at City meetings and 2) technical problems with some web pages and links. We received responses from the City Clerk and City Manager saying that staff are working to correct the problems. The committee will continue to monitor the website so please let us know of any issues you may encounter.

—Progress has slowed on the Midtown Campus Project although information gathering by the team is continuing. We are still waiting for the Public Engagement Advisory Group to be formed.

—The committee briefly discussed the recent BCC approval of a Dollar General store on Highway 285. Because this is a permitted use and proper procedures were followed, we will not pursue this issue, but we will continue to monitor land use proposals.

—Coming up: LWVCNM is organizing an online Observer Corps training session on September 21. Please contact Chris Furlantto for further information or to sign up.

—We've made a few changes to our A&A page on the website, including a button to access communications with government entities. Please take a look and give us your feedback!  
—Chris Furlantto, Chair

Our next Zoom meeting will be Sept. 3 from 1-3 pm. Please contact Chris Furlantto at [crfrwf@yahoo.com](mailto:crfrwf@yahoo.com) if you'd like to be added to the distribution list. All are welcome!



## Civil Discourse Project Report

August 2020

The Civil Discourse Project has been very active, meeting weekly on Tuesdays at 4 pm via Zoom. We are very pleased that the Board of the LWVSFC has given official approval to the Project after a review of our documents and efforts to date. Currently CDP alternates weekly between a small listening session with a person from our Santa Fe County/City community and a regular business meeting. The listening sessions have two intentions that can be summarized as learning by listening. We learn about our community and we also practice our skills in listening with open minds and respectful, active attention even when we disagree.

In August we welcomed a new member, **Kristina Flanagan**, who is also new to the LWV. Kristina learned about us from Hannah Burling. After reading both our long version purpose statement and our one page executive summary, she has decided to attend our August 25 meeting and observe. CDP is currently talking and evolving ideas about how we can be specific and effective in reaching out to the wider membership of our local chapter, both for spreading the skills of civil discourse and with ways of sharing what we've learned through listening. I will report on ideas at the LWVSFC Board meeting for September.

—Irene Epp, chair

Click below to view:  
“Our Common Purpose: Reinventing Democracy for the 21st Century”



## New and Noteworthy



*Katie Christianson*

The newest member of JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) Project is **Katie Christianson**, a Santa Fe transplant from Washington State. Passionate about amplifying the voices of marginalized people, she has made several careers around speaking up, from preschool teacher to community organizer. Most recently, she joined a remarkable team to open the first rural southwestern Washington public charter school, a middle school founded to serve kids impacted by poverty and other trauma. She is finishing her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology at New Mexico Highlands University with an emphasis in Gender and Women's Studies. Katie lives with her husband, her adult son, and their giant dog, Archie. When she's not writing for her blog or her schoolwork, she skis, rides her motorcycle, and performs with her band, Katie and the Good Things.



*Brittany Dutton-Leyda*

JEDI member, **Brittany Dutton-Leyda**, who started law school at the University of New Mexico in August, was awarded the Child and Family Justice Initiative Scholarship and Advocate position. As a Child and Family Justice Advocate, Brittany will participate in specific training, mentorship, and law clinics geared toward fighting for the marginalized children and families in New Mexico. Brittany looks forward to furthering her knowledge and skills in justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Brittany has also been actively promoting the LWVNM and JEDI with her law school classmates.

## Welcome New and Returning Members!

Ann Batum  
Kathryn Boren  
Katie Christianson  
Joe Cooke  
Cynthia Feiden-Warsh  
Lynn Gary  
Krista Gatham  
Jessica Griffin  
Christa Hazlett  
Ivanna Hernandez  
Karen Kohut  
Pawel Kozlowski  
Campbell Leonard  
Doris and Cedric Page  
Dorothy Patinka  
Deborah Rakotomalal  
Gracie Schild  
Eugenia Shuller,  
Susan Summers  
Bill Swift

## Mark Your Calendars!



LWVSFC will present three joint meetings on election security with the Santa Fe World Affairs Forum in September:

- **September 16:** "Foreign Interference in Elections," with Maggie Toulouse Oliver
- **September 23:** "Impact of Fake News and Social Media," with Sarah Hood, SFCC
- **September 30:** "New Mexico Voters' Concerns about the Conduct of Elections," with Lonna Atkeson, UNM

Go to our website to register for these informative and timely Zoom presentations.  
[lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org)

## Women's Equality: The Centennial and the Road to a Better Future

Over the past year, thousands of centennial celebrations occurred across the US, and thousands more have been cancelled or postponed. Millions of Americans have read articles and seen films, photos, and exhibits, and hundreds of thousands have been enlightened by documentaries, proclamations, poetry, performances, re-enactments, webinars, biographical sketches, and genealogical research. To what effect?



*Centennial Chair Meredith Machen in front of the Nina Otero-Warren House with the staff at the Car Parade.*

At minimum, names that were lost to history have re-surfaced through scouring basements, attics, libraries, and ancestry databases. An amazing array of portraits of courageous and persevering women have come to light through efforts by family members, scholars, students, researchers, and voting rights advocates. More importantly, we have shared experiences in the context of our growing awareness of the many discriminatory acts and structures that have excluded women and people of color from equal opportunity in America. We see more clearly the deleterious effects that abuse of power have on the ideals of a democracy of, for, and by the people. We have strengthened our commitment to work for equity, equality, and an inclusive democracy.

With candor and insight, we can move forward acknowledging our invisible privileges by providing doors of opportunity to others and highlighting their accomplishments. The intersectionality of



*Bringing up the rear at the Car Parade was Meredith Machen's Prius sporting a unique hood ornament honoring suffragist Alice Paul*

today's multi-cultural, cross-generational movement must be documented, stewarded, and celebrated. We are a work in progress, fostering true community power by encouraging others to exercise not only their voices through their votes but through engagement in schools, governmental meetings, and in policy-making venues.

We can give thanks to the League for educating us to use our collective force for advocacy after we thoroughly study issues, share perspectives, and come to consensus on principles in the public interest. Through exploring the work of both leaders and ordinary individuals who have fought and continue to fight for equality and justice for all, we advance the progress of what Martin Luther King, Jr. called "the arc of the moral universe." Together we do indeed empower voters and defend democracy. A century from now, will people look back at our troubled era as a transformational time that brought about a re-awakening and revival of the American Dream, delivering on promises of improved conditions for those who need them the most? Let's make it so!

—Meredith Machen



*Marcy Litzenberg's cat Mattie snoozing on her Centennial banner after the Car Parade. After 100 years, a girl deserves a rest!*

*(Continued on next page)*

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For more history and resources, please contact Meredith Machen, [projects@lwvnm.org](mailto:projects@lwvnm.org), 505 577-6337

### More on the Suffrage Fight

- Megan Kamerick and scholars explore the history of the expansion of voting rights for women and people of color in NM and nationally as a companion to the American Experience: The Vote, which will re-air on PBS on September 8 and is available for streaming. <https://www.newmexicopbs.org/new-mexico-and-the-vote-podcast/> four episodes.
- The Center for Southwest Research at UNM's Zimmerman Library has a terrific collection on voting rights as well as the archives of the state and local chapters of the League of Women Voters of New Mexico. <https://libguides.unm.edu/c.php?g=956352>
- Dr. Sylvia Ramos Cruz presents the history of the struggle for woman suffrage in New Mexico through political, economic, social lenses. <https://www.albuhistsoc.org/programs/ahs-2020-2021-programs/they-won-the-vote-suffrage-and-suffragists-in-new-mexico/>
- Rich resources: webinars, articles, newspapers, and more <https://nmhumanities.org/women2020/>
- NM's virtual celebration of 100 years of the women's vote: poetry, music, photos, history, and commentaries about women and by women, young and old, diverse and traditional, leaders and aspirers. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxjARBy6OqE>
- Please spread the word! Get out the vote! [https://www.santafenewmexican.com/opinion/editorials/when-women-vote-the-nation-benefits/article\\_b7a3b3c6-e25b-11ea-9b76-278ba35a1356.html](https://www.santafenewmexican.com/opinion/editorials/when-women-vote-the-nation-benefits/article_b7a3b3c6-e25b-11ea-9b76-278ba35a1356.html)

## Re-Airing Starting September 8

### “American Experience: The Vote” on NMPBS



### *SCHEDULE*

#### *Hour One*

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 7 pm on KNME-HD 5.1  
Saturday, Sept. 12, 6 am on WORLD 9.1

#### *Hour Two*

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 7 pm, KNME-HD 5.1  
Thursday, Sept., 17, 1 am on KNME-HD 5.1  
Saturday, Sept. 19, 6 am on WORLD 9.1

#### *Hour Three*

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 7 pm on KNME-HD 5.1  
Thursday, Sept. 24, 1 am on KNME-HD 5.1  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 6 am on WORLD 9.1  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 12 pm on WORLD 9.1

#### *Hour Four*

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 9 pm on KNME-HD 5.1  
Thursday, Oct. 1, 1 am on KNME-HD 5.1



*LWVNM President Hannah Burling at the Car Parade.*



## Calendar of Events 2020-2021

### September

September 3, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee meeting, Zoom  
 September 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
 September 16, 11-12: Joint meeting Santa Fe World Affairs Forum (SFWAF), Foreign Interference in Elections, Speaker Maggie Toulouse Oliver  
 September 23, 11-12: Joint meeting with SFWAF, Impact of Fake News and Social Media, Speaker Sarah Hood  
 September 30, 11-12: Joint meeting with SFWAF, New Mexico Voters' Concerns, Speaker Lonna Atkeson

### October

October 1, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee meeting, Zoom  
[October 1: Candidate Forums](#)  
 October 20, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

### November

November 3, Election Day  
 November 5, 1-2:20: Action & Advocacy Committee meeting  
 November 17, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
 November 18, 11-12: General Meeting, Debriefing on Election Results

### December

December 3, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
[December 9, 11:30-1:00: Holiday Luncheon](#)  
 December 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

#### Monthly Meetings/Events:

- **Action & Advocacy Committee:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month on Zoom until further notice
- **LWVSFC Board Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 10-12
- **League Libations:** Last Thursday; now on hold but may resume on Zoom

## 2021

### January

January 6, 11:00-12:00: Legislative Preview  
 January 7, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
 January 19, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
 January 19, Legislative Session – Opening Day  
 January 27, 10-12: Unit Meeting Program Planning

### February

February 4, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
 February 16, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
[February 17, 11:30-1: Lunch with a Leader: Midtown Campus project](#)

### March

March 4, 12-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
 March 17, 11:30-1: General Meeting, Sunshine Week, Our Common Purpose  
 March 16, 10-11:30: LWVSFC Board Meeting  
 March 20: Legislative session last day

### April

April 1, 1-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
[April 14, 11:30-1: Lunch with a Leader: Early Childhood Education, Jennifer Sallee,](#)  
 April 20, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

### May

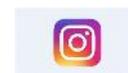
May 6, 12-2:30: Action & Advocacy Committee  
 May 12, 11:30-1: Annual Meeting  
 May 18, 10-12: LWVSFC Board Meeting

*Dates in blue are TBD*

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League of Women  
Voters of Santa Fe  
County



#lwvsantafe



@LWVSFC



### MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member  Renewal

**Please check box of the membership you wish to start or renew:**

Individual membership: \$60

Household membership (*two family members at the same address*): \$100

Student membership: \$30 (*for students 16-25 years old currently enrolled; **scholarships are available** to students wishing to be active members; email [lwvsfc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvsfc@gmail.com) for more info.*)

**Member Information:**

Name (first and last): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: (*include zip code*)

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please include information about the second household member here, if appropriate:**

Name (first and last): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation - I would also like to donate (circle one):**

**\$25    \$50    \$100    \$150    \$200    \$250    \$500    other \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make check for dues and donation payable to “LWVSFC” and mail the check with this form to the address below.**

**Thank you for joining! As soon as we receive your membership registration form and payment, we will send you a confirmation and welcome letter by email.**

**The League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization. All dues and donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.**

**Mail to: [League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County](#)  
[P.O. Box 31547](#)  
[Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547](#)**



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