



The Voter

P.O. Box 31547, Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547
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- VP-Kelly Davis
(Voter Services)
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(Administration)
- VP-Donna Reynolds
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- Susan Haase
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Path to U.S. Citizenship for Local Immigrants



The United States Center for Immigration Services, located in Albuquerque, holds public meetings in Santa Fe explaining the paths to citizenship. Literacy Volunteers of Santa Fe (LVSF) is a non-profit organization that provides free tutoring in U.S. civics and U.S. history necessary for the citizenship written test. The LVSF office is located on the Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) campus.

LVSF and Catholic Charities are two local groups that assist immigrants to become U.S. citizens. LVSF provides tutors for students preparing for the citizenship test. Tutors are counseled to educate for the content of the test only.

Application for the citizenship test can involve legal issues or questions. Catholic Charities has lawyers available to assist with legal questions that may arise in the completion of the 20-page application. For example, when an applicant is asked whether he or she has ever been detained for a crime or misdemeanor, help is available to clarify what a misdemeanor is and whether certain incidents should or need to be mentioned.

Interested immigrants can go to the LVSF office to request a tutor for the Citizenship Test. Once the student is determined to



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be ready to take the test, an application for the test is submitted. The response usually takes three to four months, and a date is scheduled for the test. After the student passes the test, he will receive a notice in the mail where and when he will be sworn in as a new citizen. These ceremonies are held several times a year. Sometimes the swearing-in ceremony is at the Federal Building in Albuquerque or at a National Park, such as Bandalier or Pecos. On August 8, 2018, the ceremony was held at Santa Fe Community College.

The New Citizen Ceremony includes Voter Registration. At the ceremony, passport photos are taken for submission with passport forms. Social Security cards are updated and the new citizens can register to vote.

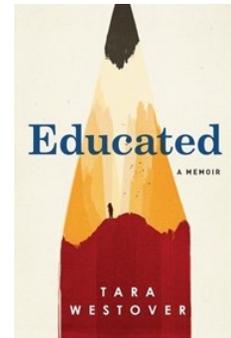
LVSF has seen 18 students become citizens between May 2017 and May 2018.



Book Club

Thursday, October 18, 2018
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Collected Works Bookstore
Santa Fe

Educated: A Memoir
By Tara Westover



An unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a Ph.D. from Cambridge University.

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag."

Lacking any formal education, Tara began to educate herself. She taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University, where she studied history. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it. (Goodreads)



Correction

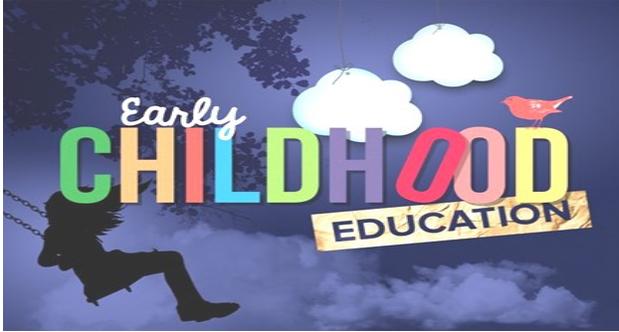
The May 2018 Action & Advocacy Committee Summary, which appeared in the May-June 2018 issue of *The Voter*, contained a factual error in its discussion of the Flying J matter, as follows:

"The conceptual plan was not approved, though the component parts-- gas station, convenience store, hotel and restaurant--were."

The above sentence has been corrected to read:

"The conceptual plan was not approved, though some of the component parts— hotel, restaurant and light industrial pieces—were."





Lunch with a Leader

Investing Early: Taking Stock of Outcomes & Economic Returns from Early Childhood Education

**September 12, 2018
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Hotel Santa Fe
1501 Paseo de Peralta (new location)**

Speaker Becky Kilburn will present RAND Corporation's latest study of research spanning two decades that summarizes the outcomes and economic returns from early childhood programs. The study addressed the following questions:

- What program approaches to providing services for families and children from the prenatal period to school entry have been rigorously evaluated?
- What outcomes did these programs improve in the short or long term?
- What are the costs and benefits of effective programs and returns to government or society?

Answers to these questions, based on a large body of evaluations now available, provide rich information about the research base for investing early and provide greater confidence in findings related to early childhood program effectiveness and economic returns.

Please remember guests or non-members are always welcome! RSVP at www.lwvsfc.org or send your check (\$25.00 per person) by September 7, 2018, to:

**LWVSFC
P.O. Box 31547
Santa Fe, NM 87594-1547**

M. Rebecca Kilburn is a Senior Economist at the RAND Corporation and holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago. During her 24 years at RAND, much of Dr. Kilburn's research has involved the evaluation of public and private investments in children. Dr. Kilburn is currently a Professor of Policy Analysis at the Pardee RAND Graduate School, and she has taught economics at the University of Chicago and statistics at the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Kilburn resides and votes in Santa Fe County.

“Before you speak, ask yourself, is it kind, is it necessary, is it true, does it improve on the silence?”

Sai Baba



Poll watchers wanted for the November 6, 2018, General Election

League coalition partner, Common Cause New Mexico (CCNM), a nonpartisan organization promoting open, honest and accountable government, is recruiting and training volunteer poll watchers to assist voters when they vote.

Poll watchers are an integral part of the election protection project, and Common Cause needs people across New Mexico.

On Tuesday, November 6, poll watchers will be deployed at polling places to help voters with information about accessing the ballot box. After reviewing an informational packet, poll watchers will be able to answer voters' frequently asked questions and will also have websites and toll free numbers to direct voters for additional assistance.

Poll watchers may also attend a webinar. Pre-registration is necessary to obtain needed information and to receive poll assignments. Volunteers may work two to five hours on Election Day—their choice.

Contact Diane Wood at Common Cause New Mexico dianewood.ccnm@gmail.com to register and volunteer, or call 505-379-9470.

By state law, to be a poll watcher, you must:

- Be registered to vote in the county.
- Not be a candidate, law officer, or close relative (spouse, parent, child, sibling, or in-law) of a candidate.
- Be certified by the Secretary of State.
(Common Cause NM Election Protection Program will notify the Secretary of State and send the certification letter to the poll watcher.)



Voter Registration



On August 25, 2018, Vonnell Bettencourt registered voters at the Santa Fe Arts Commission Southside Summer Zozofest.

Location: Santa Fe Place Zozobra construction site.



YOUR LWVSFC MEMBERSHIP

Annual memberships expire August 31st. You can renew online by visiting the website, choosing your membership(s), adding it (or them) to your cart and filling out the billing information for paying by credit card. If you prefer to renew by mail, print the membership form, fill out your name, make any changes to your contact information, and mail the form with a check to the address printed at the bottom of the form.

Remember to keep a copy of your receipt if you renew on line as the League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization and all dues and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. If you renew by mail, you will receive a receipt in the mail as part of your Thank You letter.

Thank you in advance for your support of the League and its mission.

Debbie Helper
Director, Membership Services
lwvsfc@gmail.com



ACTION & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE SUMMARY JULY 2018



- City Website: The city is not yet ready to start, and responsibility for the website may be moved to the City Clerk’s office, somewhere else, or not moved at all. Until responsibility is decided, nothing else will be scheduled.
- Midtown Campus Project: The report is not yet finished.
- The Matrix: The committee began the annual revision of the matrix, which will continue into August. The water issue was raised to high priority from medium, and the committee is searching for more people to act as resources in this area. Of particular concern is the number of undocumented wells in the city, including some that serve schools and businesses as well as many at private residences.
- Proposed Changes to the City Public Finance Code: Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth has introduced a bill to amend the public campaign finance code with regard to small contributions. Karen Heldmeyer reported “essentially, the idea is that publicly financed candidates can continue to collect contributions of \$100 throughout the campaign and that those contributions will be matched 2:1 by the city up to 200% of the initial public financing until 25 days before the election.” Joyce Blalock, Karen Heldmeyer, and Jody Larson have formed a subcommittee to examine this bill and will have their recommendations in before the public hearing and the next Action & Advocacy meeting.
- Civility in Public Discourse: Hannah Burling reported on the civility in public discourse workshop she attended at the LWVUS convention in Chicago. Several local leagues have come up with solutions to what is perceived as an increasing nationwide problem. She would like to bring in a speaker from the San Luis Obispo County League and will be pursuing methods to combat this growing lack of civility.

- City: Mary Schruben reported that there is a move to ensure that future bonds are free from any restraints on how the money should be spent. At this point, the committee does not know what is in the state bonding regulations. There is also a suggestion that there be a Rainy Day Fund equivalent to 20% to 25% of the Gross Receipts Tax. The fund would have to be approved by voters, but not the source of these funds.
- City: Neva Van Peski reported that the legislature in 2019 will introduce legislation to tax internet sales. She would like the city to lobby to have some distribution at the rate of GRT 1.225%.
- Affordable Housing: Karen Heldmeyer attended the Affordable Housing Transition Team meeting. There are over twenty people on that team. One group is interested in large rental complexes, another in therapeutic/housing for the homeless. They are still waiting to see what is available from the Federal government, but are not expecting HUD money. There is money for senior/assisted living but not for housing the homeless. There is also a backlash in the city against short-term rentals. -Hannah Burling



ACTION & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE SUMMARY AUGUST 2018

- The League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County has joined the Brennan Center's amicus brief in regard to *Rio Grande Foundation v. City of Santa Fe, et al.* This is the lawsuit the Rio Grande Foundation has brought against the City of Santa Fe to eliminate the requirement that some expenditures for independently sponsored campaign communications in issues campaigns be reported to the City Clerk and that those reports should be made available to the public.
- Midtown Campus Project: The final report for the first phase and the planning guidelines are available online. Councilor Villarreal's proposed amendments to the resolution to approve the report and guidelines failed. Hannah Burling met with Councilor Romero-Wirth, Councilor Villarreal, and Matt Brown to see what role the League could play in the process.
- Civility in Public Discourse: The LWVSFC is a part of a continuing conversation among several local leagues throughout the country on various approaches to this issue.
- City: There is a potential charter amendment that may be on the ballot for the November elections. All nonpartisan elections would be held on the same day in November in odd numbered years. This will need extensive voter education as well as a remedy for those elected officials whose terms would need to be extended or cut short during the transition.
- School Board: Resolutions and policies are not yet available to the public. There will be an eight-month gap in funding for technology, and the SFPS will need that money. In the matter of school athletic events, it was decided that students will not be punished for their parents' poor behavior.

-Hannah Burling



Membership Form—New/Renewal

Please complete in full, even if renewing.

Date: _____ Name: *(please print)* _____

Address: *(including ZIP)* _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

DO NOT include my contact information in the annual Handbook/Membership Directory.

Can you attend mid-day meetings, luncheons, and other activities during the week? Yes No

Membership Categories

- Individual member: \$60.00
- Second member (same address): \$40.00 Second member name: _____
For separate listing of second member in Handbook/Directory, please list phone and e-mail:
 Second member phone: _____ Second member e-mail: _____
- Student membership: \$20.00 *(for students 18-25 years of age and currently enrolled at an accredited school/college)*

Membership checks made payable to LWVSFC: *Please mail form with check to LWVSFC, Attn: Membership, to the address at the bottom of form.*

Membership is paid annually for the membership year September 1 to August 31. It includes state (LWVNM) and national (LWVUS) dues. If you join between April and August of any year, your membership will extend through the following year to August 31.

Additional Donation

Inasmuch as the majority of membership fees is sent to the state and national Leagues, members are asked to make a contribution in addition to membership fees.

For example, the Santa Fe League keeps only \$12.00 of the \$60.00 paid for an individual membership and \$11.00 of the \$40.00 second membership. Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

The LWVSFC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All fees and donations to the League are tax-deductible.

Get Involved

LWVSFC has no paid staff. All work is accomplished by volunteers. Consider giving some of your time to support either Voter Services or Organizational Support. Check all that apply.

Voter Services: Voter Registration High School Voter Registration Information Table

Are you a trained Voter Registrar? Yes No *If No, walk-in training is available at County Clerk's office downtown.*

Monitor public meetings Candidate forums/meetings Lobby government officials *(w/LWVNM)*

Organizational Support:

Help at events Development Membership Write for newsletter Website

Staff League office Board member Other _____



Calendar 2018-2019

2018

September

September 8, 11-3: *LWVNM Board meeting, Santa Fe*
September 12, 11:30-1: General meeting (Hotel SF)
Rebecca Kilburn on early childhood education benefits
September 18, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
September 27, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

October

October 4, 5:30: Candidate forum, HEC
October 11, 5:30 Candidate forum, HEC
October 16, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
October 18, 10:30-12:30: Nonfiction Book Club,
Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street
October 27, 10-12: Tour of Mesa Pietra Petroglyphs
October 25, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel
October 30, 7-9: Women's Film Series-Iron Jawed
Angels, CCA, 1050 Old Pecos Trail

November

November 7, 10-12: Unit meeting-Transfer of Public
Lands Consensus
November 14, 7-9: Nonprofit news organization public
forum
November 17, 11 - 3: LWVNM Board meeting, Socorro
November 20, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
November 29: 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

December

*December 8, 10-12: LWVNM Effective Citizen
Advocacy Workshop, NM State Capitol, Room 322,
Santa Fe*
December 11, Roundhouse Art Tour
December 12, 11:30-1:00: [Holiday Luncheon \(Hotel
SF\) Robin Martin, Santa Fe New Mexican](#)
December 18, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting

2019

January

January 9, 11:30-1:00: Legislative Preview (Hotel SF)
January 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
*January 19, 11-3: LWVNM Board meeting,
Albuquerque*
January 24, 5:30 SFPS school board candidate forum
January 23, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel
January 29, 11-1: Unit Meeting - Program

February

*February 6, 5:30-7:30: LWVNM Legislative Reception-
TBD*
*February 7, LWVNM League Day at the Legislature -
Census presentation by Robert Rhatigan*
February 19, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
February 27, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

March

March 17, 11-3: LWVNM Board meeting, Santa Fe
March 19, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
March 20, 11:30-1: Sunshine Week presentation (Hotel
SF) Update of city finances
March 28, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

April

April 4, 7-9: Public forum on Immigration
April 16, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
April 18, 10:30-11:30: Nonfiction Book Club,
Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street
April 25, 5:30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel

May

May 8, 11:00-1:30: Annual Meeting (Hilton)
(LWVSCF Board)
May 15, 10-12: LWVSFC Board meeting
May 19, LWVNM Convention, Las Cruces
May 20, 11-3: LWVNM board meeting
May 23, 5-30-7: League Libations-Hilton Hotel



Check www.lwvsfc.org for locations and updates.
**LWVNM and other organization functions in italics*
Regular meetings:

Action-Advocacy 1st Thursday of each month
LWVSFC Board meetings 3rd Tuesday of each month
10-12 at NM Bank & Trust, 1592 St. Michael's Dr.
Unit Meetings are only for League members
League Libations: Last Thursday of each month @
the Hilton Hotel Ortiz Caf e & Bar