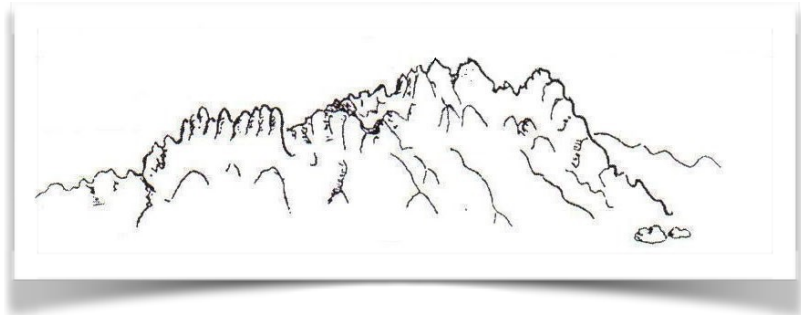


**League of Women Voters
of Greater Las Cruces
(575) 524-VOTE (8683)**

Web Site: www.lwvglc.org

February 2017



The VOTER

Annual Program Planning for Study and Action

Monday, February 13, 2017, 10:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Good Samaritan Social Center Creative Arts Room

3011 Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces

Developing program issues for study and action will be undertaken by the Greater Las Cruces League at the February Luncheon Meeting. This is an annual event for all local Leagues. The purpose of program planning is to gather League members to: review current local League positions; discuss issues of common interest - that can be resolved by local government; propose a program that will be presented for adoption by Members at the Annual Meeting in April. These identified issues will determine both advocacy and education efforts for the upcoming year. Recommendations will be presented to the LWVGLC Board of Directors at the March 2, 2017, meeting for approval.

Recommendations are considered by three criteria: (1) Is there widespread Member interest? (2) Is this a timely issue? (3) Is government action the most effective way to address the problem?

Program recommendations, at both the local and national levels, require a brief statement of 300 words or less, that describes the scope of the study. Please be mindful of the resources that would be needed – both money and volunteer time.

All members are invited to participate in this very important activity. Please RSVP Sharon Shoemaker by February 6, 2017, shoemaker714@gmail.com or call Gwen Hanson at 556-9251.

Message from the President...

LWVGLC, in collaboration with KRWG-TV, hosted the LCPS School Board Election Candidate Forums (Positions 1, 2 and 3). You may access the candidate forums at the following link: <http://krwg.org/post/las-cruces-school-board-election-forums>. Thanks and appreciation are extended to Dr. Fred Martino, KRWG, Dale Yeo and Vicki Simons, LWVGLC Voter Services, for their coordination of this event.

The LCPS School Board Election is February 7, 2017. If you have questions about any aspect of voting in the election, please call the Dona Ana County Bureau of Elections, (575) 647-7428.

This edition of the VOTER will be the last to be provided by temporary Editor, Kim Martin. Our very own Bonnie Votaw has volunteered to be the Editor, beginning with the March Edition. Thank you so much, Dr. Kim Martin, for your help during this critical time.

Calendar at a Glance

- February 2 - LWVGLC February Board Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Branigan Library**
- February 7 - School Board Election, Las Cruces Public Schools**
- February 8 - NM Legislative Reception, Santa Fe, 5:30-7:00 p.m.**
- February 9 - League Day, Santa Fe, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
- February 13 - LWVGLC Program Planning Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Good Sam's**
- February 16 - 3rd Thursday Book Club, Democracy for Realists - Why Elections Do Not Produce Responsive Government, by Christopher Achen.
Home of Gwen Hanson, 2:00 pm**



League Day at the Legislature 2017: February 8 & 9

Legislative Reception, Wednesday, February 8, 5:30-7:30 PM

Garrett's Desert Inn, 311 Old Santa Fe Trail*

Adequately Funding Essential Services

James Jimenez, MPA, Executive Director, New Mexico Voices for Children

James Jimenez joined New Mexico Voices for Children in 2013 and became Executive Director in 2016. He also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico's School of Public Administration. In both positions, he draws from his considerable experience working in state and city government. Jimenez served as the Chief of Staff under Governor Bill Richardson from 2006 to 2008, and as Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration from 2003 to 2006. He has also served as City Manager for the city of Rio Rancho. Jimenez volunteers for several nonprofit organizations.

League Day, Thursday, February 9, 10:30 AM to Noon

State Land Office, Morgan Hall, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail

Educational Funding Issues and Priorities

Dr. Veronica García, Superintendent, Santa Fe Public Schools

Veronica García's decades of work within the state's K-12 education system range from teacher to principal to superintendent and to New Mexico's first Cabinet Secretary of Education. In this position, she successfully advocated for the Pre-K Act, K-3 Plus, rigorous academic standards, college and career readiness programs, and accountability systems to improve teacher quality and student learning. Prior to returning to Santa Fe Public Schools recently as Superintendent, she was the Executive Director of New Mexico Voices for Children, Superintendent of Albuquerque Public Schools, and Executive Director of New Mexico Coalition of School Administrators.

League Day, Thursday, February 9, 10:30 AM to Noon (Con't)

State Land Office, Morgan Hall, 310 Old Santa Fe Trail

Reproductive Rights

Julianna Koob, Legislative Advocate, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains and ACLU

Julianna Koob has fought to advance the rights of women and children for the past 25 years, beginning as a domestic violence shelter crisis advocate and later becoming a legislative advocate fighting for the rights of girls and women to make their own healthcare decisions and be treated equally and fairly. She is particularly proud of her work to get legislation passed to increase equity for girls in school sports programs and to require equitable pay for women. In addition, she worked to defeat multiple pieces of legislation that would restrict access to abortion.

Garrett's Desert Inn is offering us a special group rate of \$60 single plus \$10 for each additional person (plus tax) for double queen, king, or single based on availability. Deadline for this rate is January 18 with the group code "Swing Vote" for February 8 and surrounding dates. The parking fee of \$8 is waived for your stay and/or for the League Reception. Reserve by calling 1-800-888-2145 or 505-982-1851. Group rate is not available online.

For more information: Please refer to La Palabra Winter 2017, LWVNM, Volume 64, No. 3, page 12.