

the VOTER

LWV LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
of Greater Las Cruces

December 2018
Volume 50, Issue 6

INSIDE

Legislative Priorities	2	Census Committee	6
Jane Asche Recognized	3	Anniversary Kiosk	7-9
Petition Deadline	3	Book Club	10-11
Observer Reports	4-6		

President's Message

Season's Greetings!

Put the Legislative Dinner, Dec. 10, 5-7 p.m. on your calendar. Last year we had eight legislators participate and over 60 members and guests. I'm hoping this year is even bigger and better. This is an important session (as you all know) and we want to take the opportunity at the dinner to promote our priorities and to ask the legislators the hard questions.

For those of you who missed the November meeting, Dick Mason, LWVNM lobbyist, presented the state league's priorities. In addition to supporting the state priorities, GLC has chosen to also advocate for increased funding for education and access to affordable health care. We will present all priorities to the legislators in writing but there is nothing like a face-to-face conversation to emphasize our positions and ask for their support in passing legislation. Please come prepared to talk to the legislators at the dinner. Look for the document we are presenting to the legislators at the dinner on the next page of the newsletter.

Thanks to all who showed up at the City Council meeting November 19 to witness Jane Asche receiving the Mayor's Distinguished Service Award (see page 3). The number of people there in support is testimony to her contribution to her community.

As I prepare for this holiday season, I keep turning back to the students' comments from the Celebrate Democracy event on October 9. The words equality, freedom, fairness, and compassion kept appearing. One student expressed hope for "a strong unity to reach our goals in making Las Cruces the place we love." I am proud to be affiliated with an organization that I believe has the values of equality, freedom, fairness and compassion at its heart as we work to make Las Cruces a place to love for all of us.

May you all feel the Peace and Joy this season brings. And may you all be ready to accomplish great things in 2019!

With Kind Regards,
Kim Sorensen



Kim Sorensen

Dinner with our Legislators

LWVGLC's annual get-together with legislators will occur on the evening of December 10th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Good Samaritan Social Center, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, the usual time and place for our dinners with a leader. Local state legislators have been invited.

After dinner, each Legislator will have the opportunity to talk about what he or she hopes to accomplish in the upcoming legislative session and to comment on some of the major issues to be resolved. We will also present to them our League priorities. The meeting will then be open to discussion and questions by League members and their guests. Any or all of the legislators may answer. We will try to end promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Our invited Legislators and their districts are:

Rep. Micaela Lara Cadena (33); Rep. Raymundo Lara (34); Rep. Angelica Rubio (35); Rep. Nathan Small (36); Rep. Joanne Ferrary (37); Rep. Rudy Martinez (39); Rep. Doreen Gallegos (52); Rep. Willie Madrid (53); Sen. Joseph Cervantes (31); Sen. Ron Griggs (34); Sen. John Arthur Smith (35); Sen. Jeff Steinborn (36); Sen. Bill Soules (37); and Sen. Mary Kay Papen (38).

**If you plan to attend the dinner, please RSVP by
Dec. 4 to Cindy Murrell (cmurrell@nmsu.edu).**



League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces *Legislative Priorities 2019*

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces collaborates with the League of Women Voters of New Mexico in promoting the 6 legislative priorities chosen by the LWVNM state board for the 2019 Legislative Session. In addition, the Greater Las Cruces chapter also supports increased funding for education and access to affordable health care as additional priorities

LWVNM Priorities

Tax Reform & Funding: LWVNM believes that the tax system should be progressive and equitable. We support the following:

- Raise the personal income tax rate for high earners
- Repeal the tax breaks for capital gains income
- Repeal wasteful and ineffective tax breaks
- Require all out-of-state corporations to pay income tax on their profits in New Mexico

Voting Rights: We support Automatic Voter Registration/Same Day Voter Registration/Extend the Voter Registration Period.

Iowa Redistricting Model: We support redistricting using the Iowa Redistricting Model.

The State Ethics Commission: We support legislation that ensures an effective Commission.

Reproductive Rights: We support making a woman's right to choose New Mexico law. Specifically, we support the repeal of the section of New Mexico Law that makes abortion a crime.

National Popular Vote NM—guarantees the U.S. presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia.

LWVGLC Priorities

Education: LWVGLC supports increased funding for education, especially early childhood education. New Mexico must ensure that increases in funding reach classrooms. To that end, we support the following:

- Fill teacher vacancies statewide
- Improve pay for teachers and fund Continuing Professional Development
- Increase funding for early childhood education
- Reduce emphasis and expenditures for student standardized testing and replace with and fund appropriate assessment tools that measure learning.
- Designate funds to integrate social, emotional, and academic learning
- Designate funds that address multicultural equity

Access to Affordable Health Care: LWVGLC supports the passage of the Health Security Act, a solution to our growing health care crisis. Because of the continued attacks on the Affordable Care Act by the national administration, passage of the Health Security Act will provide stable access to health care for New Mexico residents. Its mission is to establish a publicly accountable health care system in New Mexico that guarantees comprehensive and affordable health care coverage, including preventive health care and freedom of choice of provider for all New Mexicans. Legislation based on this plan has been introduced several times as the Health Security Act and is continuing to gain credibility and support. To date, 34 New Mexico counties and municipalities have passed resolutions of support. Because the plan has financial and developmental benchmarks that must be met over the 3-year implementation period, it provides security for residents that it will not continue if found not feasible. We urge our legislators to support this legislation.

Jane Asche Receives Mayor's Distinguished Service Award

On November 19, Jane Asche was presented with the coveted Distinguished Service Award by Mayor Ken Miyagishima. With many GLC members looking on, the Mayor noted that "Jane is considered a true human treasure."

League member Sue Cain had contacted the Mayor about recognizing Jane's many contributions in the nearly 20 years she has been in Las Cruces. The Mayor was well aware of her service to the community and City Administration began receiving numerous accounts of the impact of Jane's work when the word of her recognition spread.



Jane Asche (center with plaque) was surrounded by members of the LWVGLC following her award presentation by the Mayor and City Council.

Originally from Virginia, Jane has always been modest about her early years. She earned several degrees including a Bachelor's in math and chemistry, a Master's in elementary education and a Doctor of Education in adult education. Before moving to Las Cruces, she was an elementary and secondary teacher, a University faculty member, and worked at the National Association of Partners in Education in Washington, D.C. She also raised two wonderful children with her husband Marion.

Among those providing countless contributions of Jane's work were: David Greenberg of Las Cruces Public Schools, Jane's collaborator when they both served on the Ngage New Mexico Board of Directors, stated that she was the central force in initiating the SUCCESS! Partnership; Lori Martínez, Executive Director of Ngage; Ngage Board President Mónica Torres; Lucía Cardona of Raíces with whom Jane,



UPCOMING EVENTS

2018

No Book Club in December

Dec. 6: 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m., GLC Board Meeting,
Branigan Library Board Room
Dec. 10: 5:00-7:00 p.m., Legislative Dinner, Good
Samaritan Social Room

2019

Jan. 3: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., GLC Board Meeting,
Branigan Library Board Room
Jan. 15: 12:00 p.m., NM Legislative Session Begins
Jan. 19: 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., LWVNM
Board Meeting, location TBA
Feb. 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Legislative Reception,
location TBA
Feb. 7: League Day at the Legislature, Santa Fe

Petition Deadline: Jan 4, 2019

There is still time to collect signatures on the petitions that will be presented to the new Governor and Legislature at the beginning of the session. The petition urges repeal of a section of NM law making abortion a crime. A blank page is available on the last page. Completed forms can be mailed or e-mailed to Kim Sorensen(sorensentweet@gmail.com) or to Diana Goldfarb in the state League office: 2315 San Pedro NM, Suite F-6, Albuquerque, NM 87110; leaders@lwvnm.org.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER LAS CRUCES BOARD:

Kim Sorenson – President

Cindy Murrell – Vice President, Events & Speakers

Ashley Beyer – Secretary

William Little – Treasurer

Vicki Simons & Dale Yeo – Voter Services

**MaryEllen Kebbel & Caprice Benoit – Membership
Co-Directors**

**Jane Asche & Judith LaPointe – Nominating
Committee**

Bonnie Votaw & Jo Galván Nash – Editors, the Voter

**P.O. Box 15142 • Las Cruces, NM 88004
575.524.VOTE (8683)**

www.lwvglc.org



OBSERVER REPORTS

Las Cruces Utilities Board (LCU) • Regular Meeting

Nov. 8, 2018 • 4 of 7 members present; Absent: Sorg, Vasquez, Baumgarn

Observer: Susan Schmugge

APPROVED, 4-0 Votes:

1. Contracting additional crews for service line maintenance and repairs.
2. Consulting contract to LCU, Gas Section, for a service agreement which includes training, development of an emergency plan.
3. Awarding contract to provide Griggs/Walnut Annual Report.
4. Authorization to staff to revise Customer Fees and Charges language.
5. Two-year contract with NMSU to provide natural gas.
6. Water rate tariffs for residential customers effective December 1, 2018. This is pursuant to City Council Resolution #19-053, approving three-year phased-in option for a rise in rates.

Dr. Jorge Garcia, Interim Director, is advertising a position for an Assistant Director. The next meeting will be Dec. 12, 2018; 1 p.m.-work session; 3 p.m.-regular session.

Utility Customer Advisory Group (UCAG) • Regular Meeting

Nov. 14, 2018 • All 5 members present

Observer: Susan Schmugge

Wastewater Rate Increase

Moving right along with the approval of a three-year phase-in raise in wastewater rates as the recommended option to the Las Cruces Utility Board, the final vote was 4-1 (Daly). The UCAG will attend a work session of LCU Board on December 13. From there, the LCU will vote on dis/approval, and either refer it to the Las Cruces City Council for final approval or return it back to the UCAG for further consideration.

Solid Waste Rate Increase

With the new year the UCAG will hold a work session on Jan. 9, 2019 to work on rates for solid waste and the schedule of outreach meetings. Members will receive a report from Stantec regarding rate design options.

South Central Solid Waste Authority Board Meeting • Regular Meeting

Nov. 15, 2018, 9:00 a.m. • All 9 Board Members present

Observer: Johnnie R. Aldrich

This was the first of this Board's new quarterly meeting schedule; the next meeting will be in February 2019. Patrick Peck's Director's Report included the two Citizens' Listening Sessions conducted in October. The total attendance of these special sessions to answer questions and inform the public of recent recycling activities was approximately 50 residents. Peck also reported that the **Tug, Tip, Tag, and Turn** inspection program is "going well," i.e., that more "Thank You!" tags have been placed on residential bins than "Oops!" tags. ("Oops!" means that contaminated or unacceptable items are included in the bin.)

— continued on page 5



OBSERVER REPORTS (cont).

Most of the hour-long meeting was devoted to finances. Director Peck has begun working with a group, headed by the City of Albuquerque, to make a one-time only request of the NM Legislature for “recycling relief funds” to get state-level help in covering expenses incurred due to this year’s Chinese changes in collection policies. Potential gain for SCSWA is estimated at \$250,000.

One of the 6 finance-related resolutions discussed and passed involves application to the NM Finance Authority for a loan to replace the 25-year-old compacter that is vital to solid waste processing. Cost of the machine approaches \$1 million. The Board probably will have a special meeting to approve the final loan application packet.

Post-meeting info gleaned: From July 2017-May 2018, crews collected 172 tons of illegally dumped materials in the deserts of the county.

Doña Ana County Canvassing Board

Nov. 13, 2018 • All Commissioners present

Observer: Jo Galván Nash

APPROVED, 5-0: Meeting as the County Canvassing Board, all County Commissioners approved the mid-term election results for Doña Ana County. Dr. Amanda López-Askin, newly appointed County Clerk, gave a thorough report of the results:

Doña Ana County	2018 Election	2014 Election
Total voting	61,328	41,586
Early Voting	29,190	
Absentee Voting	8,517	2,538
Voting on Nov. 6	23,621	

She noted that voting nationwide also went up 32% compared to 2014, and 49% of eligible voters cast a ballot. This is the highest percentage since 1920 which is when the 19th Amendment was ratified, giving women the right to vote.

Among the election day challenges in our county were: long lines, need for more supplies, appropriate staffing at polls, physical conditions of some polling locations, staffing at the County Clerk’s Office, and the large number of provisional ballots. She said “next steps” in correcting these issues include filling vacant positions in the Clerk’s Office, recruiting more elections officials, providing additional presiding judge training, reviewing the polling locations (primarily for accessibility), and conducting an audit of voter registrations.

She thanked many agencies that provided assistance and noted that DAC had an election that was “fair, with integrity, and every vote was counted.” The results are to be sent to the Secretary of State to be a part of the state’s election certification. Prior to ending the discussion, the Commission heard both positive and negative public comments regarding the election process. One elected official who was not re-elected on Nov. 6 noted that in order to have “fair elections” there is a need to be “staffed correctly.”

In response, Dr. López-Askin said there are nine vacancies of the 24 County Clerk positions. Plus, on election day 10 poll workers, at the last minute, opted not to work. She was grateful for the help and expertise of Daniel Ivy-Soto who previously served as the Deputy Secretary of State prior to his current position as Executive Director of the New Mexico County Clerks Association. (He clarified that his role as a current state legislator has no bearing to his consulting work for DAC. He currently has no contract with DAC and was a non-paid volunteer for the mid-terms.)



OBSERVER REPORTS (cont).

Based on Commissioner requests and comments, the follow-up to the long discussion includes: 1. Provide Commissioners with the old invoices of Mr. Ivy-Soto's previous contract with DAC when he was paid \$5,000 per month; 2. Work with the HR Department to hire additional poll workers; 3. Consider using a temp agency to find election workers; 4. The Manager would need to bring forward any requests of additional personnel which has not been done to-date; 5. Provide Commissioners with a breakdown of county voting results by precinct.

Next Regular Commission Meeting: 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, County Govt. Center

News from Doña Ana County

County Forms Census Committee

At its Regular Meeting on Nov. 13, the County Commission approved a Resolution creating a Complete Count Committee in advance of the 2020 U.S. Census. Manager Fernando Macias is seeking participation from community leaders in Las Cruces, Sunland Park, Anthony Hatch and Mesilla. Noting that the county's population is about evenly split between residents of incorporated and unincorporated areas, Macias said wide participation is essential to assure an accurate count. [The state League has also asked the Governor to establish a Complete Count Committee.](#)

The county is accepting application packets from people with expertise and involvement in several community sectors, to include government, education, businesses, faith-based entities, the media, youth coalitions and community and non-profit organizations.

The deadline to submit an application packet is 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, 2018. Packets should include a letter of interest and a current résumé. Completed packets must be submitted to the Doña Ana County Special Projects Office in person during business hours, by mail to 845 N. Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, N.M., 88007, by email to input@donaanacounty.org or by fax to (575) 525-5948.

Once the committee is formed, training sessions will be offered on committee basics, timelines, work planning, resource needs, work plans and step-by-step planning. A meeting schedule also will be finalized.

— News release from Jess Williams
DAC Public Information Director

Jane Asche Award (cont. from p.3)

along with Amanda Walden and others, established a charter school which will open in 2019 with a focus on indigenous roots; Erika Graf-Webster, previous president of LWVGLC and Director of the Youth Engagement Committee, noted that Jane has been an "important supporter and participant in League activities. She had a critical role in getting the collaboration effort, called 'The Civic Engagement Project', between the League and Las Cruces Public Schools off the ground . . . plays a very important role of continued activities . . . and has been a wonderful mentor and advisor, given her extensive experience with young people and education."

Jane facilitated strategic planning throughout our community, including Ngage New Mexico, Coalition

Against Bullying, the Children's Reading Alliance, and she arranged for training in the Technology of Participation. She believes deeply in dialogue and consensus-building processes that respect all the diverse voices in our community.

Jane worked with Jack Soules to realize his idea of a project-based mentoring program, the HAZLO Foundation, for youth in Doña Ana County. Her work has focused consistently on social justice, which has been manifested in all her endeavors including the minimum wage campaign and immigration issues. She has served as President of the Board of the Unitarian Universalist Church and its Social Justice Committee.

Congratulations, Jane!

— Yvonne-Magdalena Flores

League's 50th Anniversary on Public Display

It's quite an honor to have the 50th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces prominently displayed in the community. Head to Branigan Memorial Library to see the wonderful kiosk that explains the League's history, has voter information including the Who's Who pamphlets, and the GLC policy issues. Thanks to Cathy Matthews, Lizz Taylor and Joy Miller for organizing this informative display.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GREATER LAS CRUCES

Celebrating 50 Years of Service

Who We Are

For 50 years, the Greater Las Cruces League of Women Voters has been a non-partisan organization defending the right of every citizen to vote, studying and acting on public policy issues, and championing good governance.

Our History

1968-1989

In 1968, the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces was organized as a Provisional League under its first President, Jo Brencley. In its founding year, the League registered 816 voters and garnered 57 members. The organization published a booklet on Las Cruces city government, ran a state constitutional campaign, and observed meetings of the Doña Ana County Commission and other governmental departments. The League was granted formal acceptance at national and state levels on February 18, 1969. Among its activities during the 1970s and 80s were advocacy on issues surrounding the Equal Rights Amendment, health care, and waste management, including the organization of a statewide conference on nuclear waste.

1990-2009

Over the following two decades the organization's scope expanded. The League formed its Election Procedures/Voter Turnout Committee and collaborated with the Bureau of Elections to conduct voter-satisfaction surveys. In 2001 the League's website activated with its first posting of its *Who's Who Guide to Elected Officials*. The League engaged in initiatives surrounding affordable housing, recycling, the establishment of metropolitan courts, and US/Middle East policy. The League led telephone campaigns to connect with newly registered voters, and installed the public service telephone line, 524-VOTE.

2010-Present

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces continues to advocate for good governance with initiatives including organizing forums on local issues and candidate forums, producing informational publications, and studying topics of local, state, and national interest. Many members serve in voters registration drives. The League recently supported the establishment of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument and is currently focused on addressing mental health care issues in Doña Ana County.



FAMILY LIFE, CULTURAL IDEALS ESSENTIAL, SAYS LWV

Las Cruces Sun News

October 15, 1967

League of Women Voters Organizational Meeting Set

Las Cruces Sun News

October 15, 1967



VOTER SERVICE

Voter Information

Who's Who

The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces publishes guides to the contact information for the elected representatives for our area, including: Executive, Legislative, Commission, and Judicial officials; County officials; and Municipal officials (Las Cruces, Anthony, Hatch, Mesilla, and Sunland Park). The *Who's Who: A Directory of Elected Officials* is made available in print and online at the LWVGLC website, <http://www.lwvglc.org/documents/whoswho.pdf>.

Candidate Forums

The LWVGLC promote general knowledge of candidates and policy positions and provides an opportunity for voters to ask questions of candidates by holding public Candidate Forums prior to election day. The League is committed to making democracy work by providing unbiased, nonpartisan information to voters when exercising their important right to vote.



Voter's Guide

The League produces an annual guide for Doña Ana County voters, providing factual information including general voting information, polling places, candidate positions, and details on ballot questions and bond issues. Other highlights include candidates' statements on questions related directly to the offices for which they are running and pro/con summaries on constitutional amendments and bond issues.

Voter Registration

Many League members are Voter Registration Agents and the League conducts voter registration drives, trying to reach as many eligible citizens as possible. The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces encourages all eligible citizens to register to vote. A link to the Doña Ana County voter registration webpage from the League's webpage allows citizens to easily register and learn about voting options, voting procedures, and early or absentee voting.



www.lwvglc.org



ADVOCACY

Local Policy Positions

Affordable Housing (revised 2012)

- ✓ Increase opportunities for safe, affordable housing for moderate- and low-income households, and support policies that link transportation, land use, and affordable housing

Branigan Library (revised 2007)

- ✓ Expand the main library, establish branch libraries, and encourage County Government to provide financial support for libraries throughout the county

County Government (revised 1997)

- ✓ Support development of a comprehensive plan for Doña Ana County for managing growth and orderly development while preserving existing resources

Education (adopted 2016)

- ✓ Oppose the use of public education funds to support for-profit alternative options
- ✓ Support innovative strategies for student success, early childhood education, community and parent involvement, and performance-based evaluations

Metropolitan Court (adopted 2007) • **Municipal Elections** (revised 1997)

Quality of Life (adopted 2015) • **Solid Waste Recycling** (revised 2008)

Land Use Planning (revised 2001) • **Water** (revised 2001)

Mental Health Services in Doña Ana County (adopted 2010)

Health Care in Doña Ana County (revised 2005)

National Issue Position Topics

Campaign finance reform • Arms control • The United Nations
Elimination of the electoral college • Basic health care for all
Right to privacy for reproductive choices • Waste management
Environmental protection • Reduction of trade barriers
Equal opportunity • Abolition of the death penalty • Arms control
Progressive/broad-based income tax • Immigration reform

**League of Women Voters Proposes
Abolishment of Electoral College**

August 10, 1969

CITISUN

October 15, 1967

**LWV FILM DEMONSTRATES
LANDFILL MANAGEMENT**

Las Cruces Sun New



LWV MEMBERS PRESS FOR CLEAN AIR ACT, ENERGY CONSERVATION

May 6, 1977

Albuquerque Journal

Candidate Books for LWVGLC Book Club – November 2018

Status	Book
December	We are taking December off!
Selected for January 24, 2019 at Erika's	<p><i>World Class – How to Build a 21st Century School System</i> published by The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (Part of the UN, I think)</p> <p>Author looks at all the high-performance education systems in the world, and how what they do right can help in the US.</p> <p>Available to read for free here: https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/education/world-class_9789264300002-en#page1</p>
New 5-6-18	<p><i>War on Peace: The End of Diplomacy and the Decline of American Influence</i> by Ronan Farrow.</p> <p>US foreign policy is undergoing a dire transformation, forever changing America's place in the world. Institutions of diplomacy and development are bleeding out after deep budget cuts; the diplomats who make America's deals and protect its citizens around the world are walking out in droves. Offices across the State Department sit empty. We're becoming a nation that shoots first and asks questions later.</p>
New 6-23-18	<p><i>Everybody Lies: Big Data, New Data, and What the Internet Can Tell Us About Who We Really Are</i> by Seth Stephens-Davidowitz (Paperback)</p> <p>Offers fascinating, surprising, and sometimes laugh-out-loud insights into everything from economics to ethics to sports to race to sex, gender and more, all drawn from the world of big data. What percentage of white voters didn't vote for Barack Obama because he's black? Does where you go to school effect how successful you are in life? Do parents secretly favor boy children over girls? Do violent films affect the crime rate? Can you beat the stock market? Investigating these questions and a host of others, Seth Stephens-Davidowitz offers revelations that can help us understand ourselves and our lives better.</p>
New 6-23-18	<p><i>The World as It Is: A Memoir of the Obama White House</i> by Ben Rhodes</p> <p>"The closest view of Obama we're likely to get until he publishes his own memoir."</p> <p>For nearly 10 years, Ben Rhodes saw almost everything that happened at the center of the Obama administration—first as a speechwriter, then as deputy national security advisor, and finally as a multipurpose aide and close collaborator. Rhodes shows what it was like to be there—from the early days of the Obama campaign to the final hours of the presidency.</p>
New 7-14-18	<p><i>Anna, Age Eight: The Data-Driven Prevention of Childhood Trauma and Maltreatment</i> by Katherine Ortega Courtney PhD (Author), Dominic Cappello (Author)</p> <p>We are in the midst of an epidemic of childhood trauma with far-reaching effects that the public, media and lawmakers would prefer not to see. With research showing child maltreatment is substantiated for one in eight children in the US. The book suggests a series of shockingly modest yet strategic reforms, changes that can ensure that the future systems of protection in every community are better at identifying their own shortcomings and fixing them. The proven strategies proposed have the power to heal families, illustrating how we can all take courageous and compassionate steps toward designing child-friendly, trauma-free communities.</p>
New 9-3-18	<p><i>Our Towns - A 100,000 mile Journey Into the Heart of America</i> by James & Deborah Fallows</p> <p>A vivid, surprising portrait of the civic and economic reinvention taking place in America, town by town and generally out of view of the national media. A realistically positive and provocative view of the country between its coasts.</p>
New 9-10-18	<p><i>The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure</i> By Greg Lukianoff & Jonathan Haidt</p> <p>Something is going wrong on many college campuses in the last few years. Rates of anxiety, depression, and suicide are rising. Speakers are shouted down. Students and professors say they are walking on eggshells and afraid to speak honestly. How did this happen?</p>

Status	Book
New 9-28-18	<i>Fear: Trump in the White House</i> by Bob Woodward With authoritative reporting honed through eight presidencies from Nixon to Obama, author Bob Woodward reveals in unprecedented detail the harrowing life inside President Donald Trump's White House and precisely how he makes decisions on major foreign and domestic policies. Woodward draws from hundreds of hours of interviews with firsthand sources, meeting notes, personal diaries, files and documents. The focus is on the explosive debates and the decision-making in the Oval Office, the Situation Room, Air Force One and the White House residence.
New 9-30-18	<i>Identity: The Demand for Dignity and the Politics of Resentment</i> by Francis Fukuyama Demand for recognition of one's identity is a master concept that unifies much of what is going on in world politics today. The universal recognition on which liberal democracy is based has been increasingly challenged by narrower forms of recognition based on nation, religion, sect, race, ethnicity, or gender, which have resulted in anti-immigrant populism, the upsurge of politicized Islam, the fractious "identity liberalism" of college campuses, and the emergence of white nationalism. The demand for identity cannot be transcended; we must begin to shape identity in a way that supports rather than undermines democracy.
New 10-3-18	<i>The Fifth Risk</i> by Michael Lewis What are the consequences if the people given control over our government have no idea how it works? Michael Lewis's brilliant narrative takes us into the engine rooms of a government under attack by its own leaders. In Agriculture the funding of vital programs like food stamps and school lunches is being slashed. The Commerce Department may not have enough staff to conduct the 2020 Census properly. Over at Energy, where international nuclear risk is managed, it's not clear there will be enough inspectors to track and locate black market uranium before terrorists do. Willful ignorance plays a role in these looming disasters.
New 10-3-18	<i>Good and Mad: The Revolutionary Power of Women's Anger</i> by Rebecca Traister From Rebecca Traister, the <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>All the Single Ladies</i> comes a vital, incisive exploration into the transformative power of female anger and its ability to transcend into a political movement. The story of female fury and its cultural significance demonstrates the long history of bitter resentment that has enshrouded women's slow rise to political power in America, as well as the ways that anger is received when it comes from women as opposed to when it comes from men.
New 11-14-18	<i>Dark Territory – the Secret History of Cyber War</i> by Fred Kaplan "An important, disturbing, and gripping history" (<i>Kirkus Reviews</i>), the never-before-told story of the computer scientists and the NSA, Pentagon, and White House policymakers who invent and employ cyber wars—where every country can be a major power player and every hacker a mass destroyer. "An eye-opening history of our government's efforts to effectively manage our national security in the face of the largely open global communications network established by the World Wide Web... <i>Dark Territory</i> is a page-turner [and] consistently surprising" (<i>The New York Times</i>).



The League of Women Voters of New Mexico strongly supports reproductive choice for all women. Because we respect New Mexico women and families, we urge the Legislature and Governor of New Mexico to pass a bill repealing the outdated anti-abortion state statute currently on the books and permanently protect access to reproductive health care, including abortion. We believe legislators should pass this bill with urgency in the next legislative session.

[illegible]