

the VOTER

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LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

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Message From the Board

It's election time! Early voting starts Oct. 7, and Voting Day is Nov. 4. On the ballot are City Council and School Board seats, a GO bond for the county, a school bond and public school buildings levy, and a number of mayoral and other municipal, school, and soil and water contests in Doña Ana County.



Kate Mangelsdorf

Sadly, low turnout in local elections is common. According to the Doña Ana Elections Bureau, voter turnout in the 2023 local election year was only 18%. While this was an improvement from 2021, with a turnout of only 12%, it is still an abysmally low number.

Low turnout in local elections is common around the country. According to [The New York Times](#), voters in local elections tend to be older and more affluent than the community at large, with white voters over-represented.

So why don't people vote, especially in municipal elections? They might not know the issues or candidates. They might think their vote doesn't count, or that they aren't impacted by local issues. Or they might simply not know how or where to vote.

LWVSNM has been busy educating people learn about the upcoming election. We have had our two forums, one for school board candidates, the other for city council candidates. Our Voter Guide will be published in a few days and distributed in *The Las Cruces Bulletin* and throughout the county. Vote411.org, the League's electronic Voter Guide, is accessible to anyone with an internet connection.

We can do more! Get someone you know to vote, be it a family member, friend, or co-worker. Give people you know a copy of our Voter Guide or sit down with them and show them the vote411.org website. Share relevant articles from newspapers. Talk about local issues that pertain to their lives. Let them know they can vote in *any* precinct and don't need to bring ID.

RSVP ASAP for our Fall Social

We had such a successful and fun social in June we decided to have another social this Fall! Social events such as these let us catch up with old friends, make new friends, and share ideas about how the LWVSNM can continue its work of educating voters and defending democracy.

We are delighted to announce that we will be having a Fall Social and New Member Welcome on Saturday, October 11, from 11:30-1:00 pm at the home of Liz Rodriguez-Johnson, 5600 Remington Road. New members will be our guests! And, all LWVSNM members are invited.

RSVP by Oct. 3. Copy or click this link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fOsLVwUa6Z7hSfSHGaffkTjk6VC1M_ic_pAtoz5hEYA/edit?ab=t.0

Current members can bring their favorite salad, dip, or dessert. Our co-hosts — Liz Rodriguez-Johnson, Kate Mangelsdorf, and Beth Bardwell — will provide chips, crackers, and beverages. We hope you'll join us.

Help us make this occasion festive, fun, and memorable! See the flyer on page 6.

▪ *Kate Mangelsdorf*

When you vote, take someone else with you. Be sure to vote and to get others to vote!

Here are links to additional resources that might help a non-voter get to the polls.

- To see the candidates and learn their positions: [Vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org)
- To see voter registration deadlines, go to [Dona Ana County Elections Bureau](https://www.donaanaelectionsbureau.org).
- To learn about ranked-choice voting: [Ranked-Choice Voting Video](#)
- To find voting locations and see your personal sample ballot: [NM Secretary of State](https://www.nmsos.gov).

▪ *Kate Mangelsdorf, Director of Membership*

Senator Visits with Education Committee

Senator Bill Soules joined our meeting on September 8, 2025. He is Co-Chair of the New Mexico Federal Funding Stabilization Subcommittee of the Legislative Finance Committee. The Subcommittee is trying to predict what the real budget impacts will be with loss of federal funds; health care, education and other topics are expected. Loss of federal funding to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will happen at the end of this year. NSF and NIH grants have been lost. Foreign graduate students are not showing up. The Subcommittee plans to use cash reserves to provide needed funding to New Mexico schools. The two trust funds “are untouchable.” Senator Soules wants the state to be proactive in setting up a different funding process for schools. “New Mexico is a wealthy state.” It has an opportunity now to strengthen funding safety nets.

The Senator also shared his perspective on the Martinez-Yazzie Action Planning process. He is happy that the process is being supported by the LANL Foundation and WestEd. Several things have been addressed, such as “beefing up” teacher preparation programs, expanding student teaching to a year, finding success with the science of reading, making progress on mathematics education, increasing teacher salaries, and gaining teachers from out of state. Funding for after school transportation is an issue that affects the student groups identified in the court findings. He explained that the formula is not sufficient for the Las Cruces Public Schools and a few other NM schools. All district transportation funding for after-school programs come from LCPS operational funds.

- *Eileen VanWie, Co-Chair, LWVSNM Education Committee*



Upcoming Calendar Events

OCT. 2025

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Oct. 6, Mon.: **League Board Meeting**, 5:00 p.m., via Zoom; all LWVSNM Members welcome; contact [Beth Bardwell](#) for a Zoom link. **NEW TIME**

Oct. 7, Tues.: **Early Voting Begins in NM**

Oct. 10, Fri.: **LWVSNM Voter Guide Published**

Oct. 11, Sat.: **LWVSNM's Fall Social and New Member Welcome**, 11:30 am; see pages 1 and 6.

Oct. 13, Mon.: **Indigenous People's Day Holiday**

Oct. 21, Tues.: **Library Committee**, 1 p.m. on Zoom; Contact [Kathy Brook](#) for a Zoom link

Oct. 31, Fri.: **Halloween**

2025/2026 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO BOARD:

Beth Bardwell – 1st Vice-President
Liz Rodriguez-Johnson – 2nd Vice President
Edwina Jaramillo – Secretary
Kathy Brook – Treasurer
Kate Mangelsdorf – Membership Director
Jo Galván Nash – Past President

Off-Board Volunteers

Social Media – Rebecca Courtney & Kathy Brook
Voter Services Activities Coordinators - David Rice & Rebecca Courtney
Publicity Coordinator – Lynda St. Clair
Healthcare Committee – Joanne Turnbull
Education Committee – Eileen VanWie & Patti Wojahn
Nominating Committee: Kate Mangelsdorf, Chair, and Rebecca Courtney & Ruth Jaure, Members
Observer Corps: Kathy Brook, Jennifer Kreie, and Patti Wojahn
Historian - Ruth Jaure
Voter Editor & Webmaster - Jo Galván Nash

LWVSNM Voter Guide Available Oct. 10

It's been weeks of work to entice candidates in southern New Mexico counties to respond to the League's request to participate in Vote411. In Doña Ana County, candidates were also asked to respond to League questions for the local printed Voter Guide in English and Spanish. The guide will be published on Oct. 10 and will be available inside the *Las Cruces Bulletin* (also in the Bulletin's newspaper stands) and at public buildings and community centers in Las Cruces. You can also view it online: www.lwvsnm.org.

Thanks to the Voter Guide and Vote411 Team: Beth Bardwell, Jo Galván Nash, Edwina Jaramillo, Dale Yeo, Kathe Kanim, Rose Jacobs, and Suzanne Kane.

League Forums Held in Advance of Election Day

The League of Women Voters of Southern New Mexico held two nonpartisan candidate forums in September, creating greater awareness of the local election set for November 4. Candidates for City Council participated on Sept. 30 at City Hall; the forum was in partnership with LC-AAUW and NAACP of Doña Ana County. The September 24 Forum for Board of Education candidates was in partnership with LCPS at the Karen M. Trujillo Administrative Complex.



Photos by Rebecca Courtney: Above were School Board candidates from Districts 1, 2 and 3 who are vying for four-term terms. At right, Kate Mangelsdorf, League membership director, goes through candidate questions with the president of the NAACP-DAC Dr. Bobbie Green. And far right are LCPS content specialists Jamie Patterson and Josie Miller (a League member) who assisted with getting students involved with the school forum.



A number of our League members served as moderators, greeters, question collectors, and timekeepers. A unique addition was the students from the LCPS Student Advisory Council who greeted the attendees and provided them with information about the school board and cards to write questions for the candidates.

School Board questions asked by moderator Eileen VanWie ranged from safety of students and staff, bilingual/multicultural education, the Yazzie/Martinez lawsuit, school budget concerns, absenteeism, books in the library and transportation. Questions asked by Jo Galván Nash, moderator at the City Council forum, included public safety, budgeting, affordable housing, water, youth engagement, and more.

Both forums were excellent opportunities to learn more about the candidates and the future of our community.

At right, new League member Rose Jacobs greets a member of the DAC-NAACP which also co-sponsored the City Council Forum. At the far right, reviewing questions from dozens of attendees were Kathy Brook, Laura Dapkus and Dale Yeo.



- *Rebecca Courtney, Education Committee, and Jo Galván Nash, Past President*



NM's Healthcare Crisis Draws Large Crowd at League Meeting

A standing-room-only crowd attended the League's September forum on New Mexico's deepening healthcare crisis. Past President Jo Galván Nash moderated a four-person panel of experts who presented different aspects of the state's critical shortage of doctors. Fred Nathan, Executive Director and founder of Think New Mexico outlined the history of the crisis, provided an overview of policy recommendations to address the shortage, and suggested ways for attendees to get involved.

Dr. Arthur Berkson, President of Doña Ana County Medical Society, described the practice barriers that are forcing doctors to leave New Mexico. Kathe Stark of Patients Primero provided the patient's perspective, sharing stories of people who suffered because they could not access health care. Walt Rubel, of KTAL radio, discussed journalist's responsibility in addressing the crisis and presented different ways to obtain news.

A question-and-answer period ended the afternoon but not before multiple questions from the audience were addressed. Many non-League members were in attendance.



Thanks to the Healthcare Committee for careful event planning, and to Shirley Armstrong, Kathy Brooke, Jo Galván Nash, Rose Jacobs, Chris Little, Josie Miller, and Terri Sugarman for making it happen.

The Healthcare Committee continues to study the crisis. We communicated with LWVNM President Hannah Burling regarding a letter sent September 22, 2025, to New Mexico's legislative leadership (see below). The letter urges enactment of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compacts during the Special Session that begins October 1. Belonging to the compacts would increase New Mexico's likelihood of receiving available federal funds.

The committee's priority is the study of factors that contribute to the shortage: malpractice reform, gross receipts tax and Medicaid reimbursement. The Healthcare Committee encourages League members to become informed about the healthcare crisis and to write to legislators, now encouraging them to enact malpractice reform.

Other issues the committee intends to study is the impact of private equity ownership on healthcare quality and rural health care.

- Joanne Turnbull, Chair, LWVSNM Healthcare Committee

LWVSNM LETTER TO:

Sen. Mimi Stewart, Senate President Pro Tempore; Rep. Javier Martinez, House Speaker; Sen. William Sharer, Senate Minority Leader; and Rep. Gail Armstrong, House Minority Floor Leader

The League of Women Voters is urging you to place legislation enabling Interstate Medical Compacts on the agenda for the upcoming Special Session of the legislature. There is a specific reason that this should be addressed in the session. The US Department of Health and Human Services plans to favor states with such compacts when they issue the all-important grants for rural hospitals. These funds are contained in the budget bill and would help our rural hospitals, which already face perilous economic times. They are the lifeblood of rural communities in New Mexico.

Because the application deadline falls in November, it cannot be postponed until the 2026 Regular Session. While there are many reasons why New Mexico has an urgent and growing need to retain medical care providers, the lack of Interstate Compacts, which recognize medical licenses obtained in other US states, is a key barrier.

What is needed during this special session is legislation granting reciprocity with other states in medical licensing for health care professionals. Similar legislation has been introduced without success, but there are bills that can be quickly adapted.

Please do the right thing for New Mexicans' access to life-saving medical care to preserve access to life-saving medical care for New Mexicans.

Sincerely,
Hannah Burling, President, League of Women Voters of New Mexico

Voter Registration Efforts Continue Through Election Day

LWVSNM Voter Registration efforts began in June of 2025, and they have been steady through September. Our league only has a few Voter Registration Agents who are available to work for our current efforts. The annual fall registration of area high school students is organized by League member Josie Miller and Jamie Patterson of Las Cruces Public Schools. League member Stewart Oberman who runs the SignUpGenius program sent out a call to additional VRAs in Doña Ana County for the high school registrations. Gratefully, the slots were filled. Having this wonderful back-up allows us to seek more opportunities in the future. It is always a joy to go to the classes and engage students in the registration process. The teachers and students are helpful and cooperative.

Available LWVSNM VRA's have participated in the following voter registration events:

- Doña Ana County Bureau of Elections/Farmers Market June 7 – September 20
- Naturalization Ceremony at the Las Cruces Convention Center September 16
- National Voter Registration Day – September 16 at the Branigan Library and NMSU Campus
- LCPS High School Fall Registration September 17 – October 2 at Las Cruces, Mayfield, Centennial, Organ Mountain, Arrowhead and Rio Grande Preparatory Institute.

Early voting begins on October 7 and VRA's cannot register during that time and November 4. All registrations will have to take place at a polling site or the County Government Building.

This is a small “regular local election” year, so we have been encouraging voters to go to the polls because there is generally a low voter turnout. It was encouraging to hear teachers saying, “The small local elections may be the most important. They are closer to home.”

▪ *Rebecca Courtney*
Voter Services Activities Coordinator

EARLY VOTING OCT. 7 - NOV. 1

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

County Govt. Center, 845 N. Motel Blvd.

Closed Oct. 13 for holiday.

EXPANDED EARLY VOTING BEGINS OCT. 20

Clerk's Office on Sat., Nov. 1, open 10am – 6pm

News from LWV-NM

On Sept. 20, 2025, the LWV-NM board met in a hybrid session, with an evenly split between an in-person group meeting in Santa Fe and the remainder on Zoom. Items discussed included the following:

- The Communications Committee is working with an intern, Blanca Ortiz, on social media postings during the election season; Blanca is a graduate student in the public policy program at UNM and is a League member. Please support our effort to expand communications on voting and other issues by following LWVNM on Facebook and by sharing the posts.
- The LWV presidents from the Four Corners states are interested in collaborating on water issues.
- LWVUS is a national partner in the No Kings II protests planned for October 18 and encourages participation by Leagues and League members. If you are wearing League shirts, buttons, etc., please use League-appropriate (nonpartisan) signage.
- In her report on the LWVNM Education Fund, Hannah Burling indicated that the focus of the Thornburg Foundation is shifting from redistricting to issues of election integrity and security. (Thornburg has funded the League's work on redistricting through Fair Districts New Mexico for a number of years.)

The board voted to concur with the LWV Colorado position on the separation of church and state. This means that the position can be used between now and the LWVNM convention in 2027, when the convention delegates will have an opportunity to vote on the position. Colorado will be seeking concurrence from the LWVUS Convention in June 2026.

The League of Women Voters of Colorado stands for the separation of church and state and religious freedom founded upon individual conscience, free of social or political influence by any state or religious body; these fundamental civil rights are threatened by religious nationalism.

The First Amendment of the US Constitution reads, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” The League of Women Voters of Colorado believes that the Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment are cornerstones of our democracy.

▪ *Kathy Brook LWVNM Board Liaison*

Don't Forget: One City Race Involves Ranked Choice Voting

In the 2025 local election, the only race for the City Council that will require ranked choice voting is in District 6. There are four candidates vying for a seat. The District 3 and District 5 Councilor races have only two candidates each and will not require ranked choice voting. (Paul Paar, a write-in candidate in District 3 has withdrawn from the race).

In 2018, the City of Las Cruces Council passed Ordinance 2861, amending the Las Cruces Municipal Code to adopt a Ranked Choice run-off election option when more than two candidates are running for the same office.

According to the City of Las Cruces website, Ranked Choice Voting, also known as instant-runoff voting, is an electoral system that allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference. In Ranked Choice Voting, voters rank candidates by assigning them a numerical order based on their preferences, typically from first choice to last choice. For example, voters assign a 1 to their top choice, a 2 to their second choice and so forth.

If no candidate receives an absolute majority of first-choice votes, a series of runoffs occur, eliminating the least popular candidates and redistributing their votes to the remaining candidates according to voters' subsequent choices. This process continues until a candidate achieves the majority of votes and is declared the winner.

This approach ensures that the candidate with the broadest support beyond first choice votes ultimately wins.

For more information, watch this [video](#) courtesy of the City of Las Cruces.

- *Beth Bardwell, 1st Vice President*



Voter Guide Deliveries

The League's printed Voter Guide will be printed by Oct. 10 and we need some help to deliver several hundred copies around Las Cruces. If you're willing, we have a list of local locations where residents typically pick up the popular guide.

Luckily, the bulk of the 13,000 copies are being inserted into the Las Cruces Bulletin and will also be delivered by the Bulletin in rural areas of the County.

If you can help please contact Jo Nash, jogalvan.nash@gmail.com or Beth Bardwell, betbardwell@gmail.com. Thanks so much!

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO
INVITES YOU TO THE LEAGUE'S

FALL SOCIAL & NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Saturday, October 11, 2025
11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
5600 Remington Road

Co-hosted by Liz Rodriguez-Johnson,
Kate Mangelsdorf, and Beth Bardwell

Open to
ALL League
Members!

NEW MEMBERS:
You are our guests!

CURRENT MEMBERS
Please bring your
favorite salad, dip,
or dessert

CO-HOSTS:
Will provide chips,
crackers, and beverages

By Sept. 29th:
Copy the link to
RSVP
and to sign up
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fOsLVwUa6Z7hSf-SHGaffkTjk6VC1M_ic_pA-toz5hEYA/edit?tab=t.0

For more information, contact Kate Mangelsdorf
katemangelsdorf@yahoo.com, 575-642-2770



Las Cruces City Council • Regular Session

September 2, 2025

Observer: Jennifer Kreie

Two resolutions were passed, one for the transfer of a liquor license and one for allowing the County Improvement Special Assessment Program to operate within the City. A revision was accepted to Chapter 18 - Nuisances ordinance. This change provided a clearer enumeration of plants that are "noxious" weeds.

LCPS Board of Education • Regular Session

Sept. 16, 2025

Observers: Elisa Sánchez and Patti Wojahn

Present: All board members and the superintendent, including Student Advisory Council Member Ella from Mayfield High School.

Public comments included concern about need for measures for Board's Strategic Plan Goal #4 (Environment – Safety), concern that Goal #6 (Engagement-Attendance) seems unattainable, a question about whether proposed bonds cover charter schools, a request for work session meetings to start at 5:00 rather than 4:00 pm, and hopes for more ideas related to parent engagement. A congratulations for the solar panels installed by one school with hopes to see solar panels at all schools. An announcement was made of the LWVSNM school board candidate forum on September 24, 2025, at 6:30, in the LCPS board room.

Superintendent Ruiz reviewed encouraging school-wide activities and visits, such as Mayfield's Feeder Pattern Frenzy Game Day; Carino Family Health & Wellness event; a discussion of the QTEL program for supporting teachers in accelerating language development and other literacies among all students, especially English learners; Mesilla Elementary walk/visit; and the upcoming Columbia Elementary School ribbon cutting.

Updates were given on the upcoming school bond election needs, a possible salary increases for school employees making less than \$30,000 a year, and more green infrastructure, more secure fencing, and bulletproof glass to protect schools. Current security officers were praised for dedication and commitment to student safety above their own.

Mayfield's Ella, student advisor for the month, expressed student concerns over cell phone restrictions (such as inability to take photos of interest or inability to use phones when work is completed), though she mentioned noting more student interactions now that students can't resort to phones. As with last month, concerns were expressed over Centennial's two metal detectors (compared to more at other schools) holding up students' entry into school and the unevenness of athletic stipends for teachers.

With respect to the Strategic Plan Goals, discussions were held on how the growth models for learning and performance worked and how chronic absences are considered.

Finance updates related to the upcoming school bond and mill levy were shared, along with debt capacity and tax rates updates, in particular upcoming changes in property taxes for disabled and veterans.

—continued



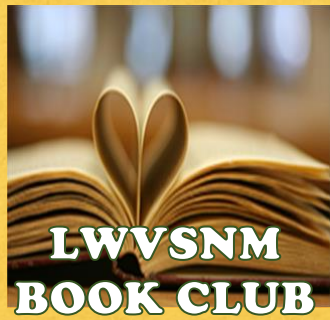
Las Cruces City Council • Regular Session

September 15, 2025

Observer: Kathy Brook

Public comment included both support and opposition relating to Project Jupiter and concern about the lack of community centers for young people.

Resolutions were approved relating to the successful completion of a Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) project involving Saputo Cheese, two single-family homes constructed by Habitat for Humanity, and the intent of the city to issue industrial revenue bonds for a Canadian manufacturing firm to locate in the Innovation and Industrial Park. Also approved was a resolution in support of public lands and their positive impact in the community.



The book club meetings are on the 1st Thursday of each month at 3:00 p.m. If you want to participate, contact Erika at grafwebster@icloud.com

Reading Books is Good for You!

— Rachel Maddow

October 3

Careless People: A Cautionary Tale of Power, Greed, and Lost Idealism by [Sarah Wynn-Williams](#)

Careless People is darkly funny and genuinely shocking...Not only does Sarah Wynn-Williams have the storytelling chops to unspool a gripping narrative; she also delivers the goods." -Jennifer Szalai, *The New York Times*. From trips on private jets and encounters with world leaders to shocking accounts of misogyny and double standards behind the scenes, this searing memoir exposes both the personal and the political fallout when unfettered power and a rotten company culture take hold. In a gripping and often absurd narrative where a few people carelessly hold the world in their hands, this eye-opening memoir reveals what really goes on among the global elite.

November 6

More Everything Forever: AI Overlords, Space Empires, and Silicon Valley's Crusade to Control the Fate of Humanity, by [Adam Becker](#)

This "wild and utterly engaging narrative" (Melanie Mitchell) shows why Silicon Valley's heartless, baseless, and foolish obsessions—with escaping death, building AI tyrants, and creating limitless growth—are about oligarchic power, not preparing for the future. Tech billionaires have decided that they should determine our futures for us. According to Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Sam Altman, and more, the only good future for humanity is one powered by technology: trillions of humans living in space, functionally immortal, served by superintelligent AIs. Science journalist Adam Becker investigates these wildly implausible and often profoundly immoral visions of tomorrow — and shows why, in reality, there is no good evidence that they will, or should, come to pass.

Treasurer's Report for September 2025

By Kathy Brook, Treasurer

Beginning Balance, August 24, 2025	\$13,909.21
New Income	\$1540.69
Dues (net of fees)	\$1,051.13
Donations (net of fees)	\$489.56
New Expenses	\$619.76
Education Committee Lunch with LCPS, chk 1230	\$108.00
Website update, WeAreIT, chk 1233	\$33.54
Zia Promotional Products (T-shirts), chk 1234	478.22
Ending Balance, September 24, 2025	\$14,830.14

Designated Funds (included in bank balance above)	\$4,559.56
Diversity Fund (reduced by payment to LCPS)	\$1,979.00
Otero/LWVSNM	\$736.00
Youth Engagement	\$375.00
Election/voter materials (increased by member donation)	\$1,469.56
Balance on Target e-card	\$78.99

Outstanding Checks

Zia Promotional Products (buttons), \$198.00, chk 1232

Notes

The T-shirts will be sold to members to cover the costs; the buttons will be available to members at no charge.

Get an LWVSNM T-Shirt

LWVSNM members can order a new T-shirt that spreads the message “Women Defend Democracy.” The cotton shirts are \$20 and are being funded through individual members – not the League’s budget. Organizer Rebecca Courtney said if you already have one, feel free to wear it at the upcoming Fall Social on Oct. 11. Some shirts will also be available to purchase at the social, as well.

The available sizes are S, M, L, and XL. Contact Rebecca: rebeccacourtney1965@gmail.com. She will be ordering shirts in groups of 24, so don’t wait to put in your order.



GOOD READS & LINKS

Here are interesting articles, books, or videos regarding topics that are related to our League Positions and/or reflect issues associated with our advocacy.

- 1** **What do the Candidates Say?** On Oct. 11, visit the League’s website www.lwvsnm.org, and pick up a hard copy of the 2025 Voter Guide featuring many of the Doña Ana County candidates. Or click on <https://www.vote411.org/new-mexico> where you can read their answers to the local and state League questions.
- 2** Stacey Abrams, former Georgia House minority Leader, has created the website below that you might find helpful in today’s political climate. We thank Eileen VanWie for sharing the “**Ten Steps to Freedom and Power**” with League members who are doing some of these things! 10stepscampaign.org/
- 3** Thanks to state League member Dick Mason for bringing our attention to this timely NBC article **regarding redrawing lines and redistricting commissions** by John Lapinski, Josh Clinton and Marc Trussler: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/poll-americans-oppose-political-parties-drawing-election-lines-rcna229257>
- 4** Has this been your experience when getting a **COVID vaccine**? An article from Source NM claims state actions have made it easier to obtain the COVID 19 shot in New Mexico. [Click here to read it.](#)
- 5** Read this copyrighted article from New Mexico News Service by Sherry Robinson, “**Self-Serving Senators Keep Medical Compacts Out Of Special Session.**” As you’ll read in this issue, page 4 of *The Voter*, the League is very interested in having this subject addressed during the special session.

UPCOMING GOVERNMENT MTGS.

LC City Council:

Oct. 6; Oct. 14, (work session); Oct. 20; Oct. 27 (work session); all at 1:00 pm., City Hall

County Commission: Oct. 7 (work session); Oct. 14; Oct. 28; all meetings at 9:00 am; DAC Govt. Center

LCPS School Board: Oct. 14 (work session), 4 p.m.; Oct. 28, 6:00 p.m.; both at Dr. Trujillo Admin. Bldg. Board Rm., Loretto Towne Center

NAACP Chapter of Doña Ana Meeting Summary

The September 20, 2025, meeting was held jointly by the DAC Chapter of the NAACP (Dr. Bobbie Green, president) and the NMSU student chapter of the NAACP (Cecil Rose, chapter president). It was held on campus.

Three election candidates were guests at the meeting: Becky Corran, running for re-election for City Council in district #5, Tommy Black, running for councilor in district #6, and Sonya Smith, running for secretary of state in the 2026 statewide election. Candidates answered questions and discussed several issues with meeting attendees.

▪ *Submitted by Jennifer Kreie
NAACP and LWVSNM Member*

Grand Opening Fiesta in Mesilla

New Mexico’s newest museum — the Taylor-Mesilla Historic Site — will be open to the public on Saturday, Nov. 8 on the Mesilla Plaza, 10am-4pm. Come take a look at the renovated Visitor’s Center, Barela Store, and the former home of J. Paul Taylor and Mary Daniels Taylor which is now a museum! Free attendance.

