



League of Women Voters
of Central New Mexico
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The Voter

League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
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LWVCNM homepage: <http://www.lwvcnm.org>

Heinrich to Discuss Privacy at Joint Meeting of LWVCNM, APW

U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich will speak to a combined meeting of Albuquerque Press Women and the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico at noon on Friday, Oct. 9 at the MCM Elegante, 2020 Menaul Blvd NE. **Please note date change for this joint APW/LWVCNM event.**

Heinrich, who is a member of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, will discuss balancing civil liberties with national security in a digital age. How much does the federal government really need to know about the everyday business of private citizens? Should the National Security Agency have unrestricted access to every telephone call we make or every email we send? Please join us for a thoughtful look at privacy.

Heinrich is an original cosponsor of the USA Freedom Act, a bill to end the National Security Agency's bulk collection of Americans' phone and other records, and to ensure more accountability and

transparency with respect to government surveillance activities. He strongly supported the release of the committee's report on the CIA's detention and interrogation program and supports a series of reforms to prevent the future use of torture.

LWVUS has extensive citizen rights positions regarding public access and privacy rights. Individual Liberties Principle was incorporated into LWVUS program in 1976, followed by the June 1984 Position: The League is convinced that individual rights now protected by the Constitution should not be weakened or abridged. LWVUS activities supporting this position have included the 2005 LWV Education Fund Study "Local Voices: Citizen Conversations on Civil Liberties and Secure Communities"



Sen. Martin Heinrich

Citizens Right to Know/Citizen Participation Principle was incorporated into LWVUS program in 1974, followed by the March 1982 Position: "Government bodies protect Citizens' Right to Know, holding open meetings and making public records

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Announcements

**Money in Politics consensus meeting,
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 p.m., Erna Ferguson
Library, 3700 San Mateo Blvd N E,**

* LWV members willing to drive carpools to Nov. 10 consensus meeting should call LWVCNM office at 884-8441

* LWVUS Study material and replay of MIP Webinar available on LWVUS website.

* Consensus questions available Oct. 1.

LWVCNM members interested in participating in MIP Study committee should contact Peggy Howell or Karen Douglas.

October Calendar

Oct. 1	Board meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Oct.. 5	Voter dead.line
Oct. 9	Luncheon Meeting, 11:45 a.m.
Oct. 13	Evening Unit, 6 p.m.
Oct. 26	NE Heights, 10 a.m.
Nov. 10	Money in Politics consensus

**League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
Board Meeting**

**1st Thursday of each month
Offices of Sutin, Thayer & Browne,
6565 Americas Parkway NE**

All League members are invited to all unit meetings, committee and board meetings.

The *Voter* is a publication of the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico. It is distributed via regular mail and email and can be accessed online at our website www.lwvcnm.org.

No MSG at Meals

One of our members expressed concern because she believed that the MCM Elegante was using MSG in meal preparation. It has been confirmed by Catherine Hatcher, hotel catering manager, that they do not use MSG. Additionally, several of our board members are highly sensitive to MSG and have not had any issues with the meals.

Please Renew Your Membership

We need all of you. Whether you volunteer, donate money, attend meetings or keep informed by reading the *Voter* and tracking activities on our website, LWV-CNM depends on you in carrying out our mission:

- * To encourage informed, active participation in government
- * Work to increase understanding of major public policy issues
- * And influence public policy through education and advocacy

So if you haven't renewed your membership this year, please do it today.

**Sept. 6, 2015 LWVCNM Board
Meeting Summary**

The Sept. 6 LWVCNM board meeting was called to order by Peggy Howell, Second Vice President, at 5:40 p.m.

The treasurer's report was given. Membership dues are coming in, which helps a lot and are appreciated.

An important Money in Politics Consensus meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 10 at Erna Ferguson Library. This is the regularly scheduled time for the evening unit. The consensus questions will be available on Oct. 1. The chair/facilitator will be Laura Stokes, Presenter/Content Expert is Dr. Jeanne Logsdon, and Consensus Opinion Lead is Sonia Lersten. We hope for a good turnout. Members needing a ride should call the office.

Karen Douglas, Third Vice President, attended the APD Forward meeting along with others on our behalf. She reported that a Youth Town Hall Meeting, sponsored by Strong Families New Mexico, will be held on Sept. 23 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.. The location is yet to be decided. Volunteers are welcome to come help.

Articles for the *Voter* that do not strictly pertain to LWVCNM activities need to be approved by the Leadership Team in advance.

LWVCNM moderated a candidate forum for the District 6 City Council race on Sept. 6. Mary H. Smith was moderator; Diane Goldfarb, timekeeper; and Helen Wright and Ann Piper, question sorters.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

-- *Sonia Lersten, Secretary*

Common Cause Honors Daniel Ivy Soto

Common Cause of New Mexico is paying tribute to a LWVCNM member, State Sen. Daniel Ivy Soto.

He will be honored for his dedication to restoring good government in New Mexico at the annual Common Cause luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 10.

Three separate groups of citizens and elected officials will be honored with Common Cause's Best in Government Awards, recognizing individuals who have made the year a bright one for good government and transparency.

Donation to Education Fund

Roland Watkins made a donation to the Education Fund in memory of Dee Watkins.

Book Review – *The Great War of Our Time*

Editor's Note: This review of an important public policy book is a regular feature in the Voter. by Olin Bray, author of ebook Political Incompetence: What's Wrong With Our System and How To Fix It

The Great War of Our Time: The CIA's Fight Against Terrorism from Al Qaeda to ISIS by Michael Morell with Bill Harlow, 2015, New York: Twelve, hardcover, 362 pages.

This is an excellent book from two perspectives. First, it is a good summary of the war on terrorism from the CIA's perspective – and they had probably the major role in it. Its focus is on the collection and analysis of intelligence and what it meant in terms of strategy, policy and politics behind the scenes. Morell provides many of the details behind some of the very public political fights that occurred.

Second, ignoring the terrorism context, it provides some excellent examples of the development, execution and coordination of complex government policies across multiple agencies. Unfortunately, it also shows how minor, even trivial, mistakes can be blown up into major political conflicts despite the best intentions of a dedicated and knowledgeable bureaucracy. It also provides a different, more nuanced, perspective on some political leaders.

Morell spent 33 years with the CIA, including serving as Director for Intelligence, Director for Administration and Acting Director. He was on the senior leadership team of many CIA directors. He focuses on the period from the late 1980s and 1990s, when the CIA ramped up its focus on terrorism, until his retirement in 2013.

In his subsequent leadership roles he was involved in almost all of the CIA's major counterterrorist activities. He details some of the attempts by officials outside of the CIA to politicize the intelligence and analysis to fit their preconceived ideas and policies and the resistance of both analysts and agency management. Prior to his UN speech Secretary of State Colin Powell spent a lot of time at the CIA while editing and writing his speech having agency analysts check every fact for accuracy. Most of the original draft he had been given was tossed because many of the facts were wrong or used in misleading ways. One senior analyst refused to participate, saying that the CIA's role was to provide analysis not to make policy, which she considered the speech to be. Morell and others said the agency was just providing analysis and fact checking because the Secretary of State and his staff were writing the speech

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October Unit Meetings

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accessible.”

Heinrich is the junior United States Senator from New Mexico in office since 2013. From 2009 to 2013 he was the U.S. representative for New Mexico's 1st Congressional District. As senator he serves on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources, Armed Services, Intelligence and Joint Economic committees. He is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Parks and a member of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

Before he was elected to Congress, Heinrich served four years as an Albuquerque City Councilor and was elected by his peers as City Council President. He also served as New Mexico's Natural Resources Trustee, working to restore the state's natural environment and the services these resources provide.

Heinrich has a Bachelor of Science degree in

Mechanical Engineering from the University of Missouri. He and his wife, Julie, moved to Albuquerque where he began his career as a contractor at Phillips Laboratories, which is now Air Force Research Labs. Heinrich later served in AmeriCorps for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and was the Executive Director of the Cottonwood Gulch Foundation. He also led the Coalition for New Mexico Wilderness and founded a small public affairs consulting firm.

Make reservations for the Oct. 9 Luncheon Unit Meeting by calling LWVCNM office (884-8441) by 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6. Specify if you would like a vegetarian meal.

Other October Unit Meetings:

LWV Evening Unit, Erna Ferguson Library, 3700 San Mateo Blvd NE, Tuesday Oct. 13, 6 p.m.

NE Heights Unit, La Vida Llena, 10501 Lagrima del Oro Blvd NE, Monday Oct. 26, 10 a.m.

-- Karen Douglas

Bernalillo County Unveils Plan to Increase Registered Voters

Bernalillo County Clerk Maggie Toulouse Oliver and the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners unveiled a new plan to increase the number of registered voters in the county at a joint press conference on National Voter Registration Day, Tuesday, Sept. 22,.

The goal of the plan is to train 250 new third party voter registration agents county-wide and to encourage current and potential voters to become more involved in the democratic process. LWVCNM members are invited to participate.

County Clerk's office staff and the county commissioners will co-host five public events -- one in each district -- to train individuals interested in becoming voter registration agents and provide general information about voting and elections in Bernalillo County.

Dates when the public events will be held follow. County Commission District 1 was held on Sept. 25.

* County Commission District 2 -- Art De La Cruz, Oct. 10, 9:30 a.m.-noon, South Valley Multi-Purpose Senior Center, 2008 Larrazolo Rd.

* County Commission District 4 -- Lonnie Talbert, Oct. 17, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Paradise Hills Community Center, 5901 Paradise Blvd. NW.

* County Commission District 5 -- Wayne Johnson, Oct. 24, noon-2:30 p.m., Los Vecinos Community Center, 478 1/2 Old Hwy 66, Tijeras.

Book Review

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and the analysts were simply doing the fact checking. A simple difference of opinion, but it shows how seriously the analysts and their manager consider the scope of what they should be doing.

Another case he examines in detail was the Senate report on rendition and enhanced interrogation. He describes a lot of the interaction between the CIA and Senate committee and staffers. He contends that the report was seriously flawed by selecting those facts that supported their desired conclusions and ignoring those facts that did not. He largely blames Senator Feinstein for making a mistake he says not even a junior manager in the Analysis Directorate would have made. She told her staff the results she wanted before they ever started their analysis. Unfortunately, many, if not most analyses from Congressional staff or executive departments are not as rigorous or impartial as those from the Intelligence Community.

Although the book focuses on the intelligence area, much of what it describes happening behind the scenes and in the interactions among government agencies to develop and implement policy are the way things really happen. Unfortunately, this level of detail and understanding is rarely provided by either politicians or the media. This makes it hard for citizens to evaluate what is really happening and the effectiveness of government actions.



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