

September 2016

## The VOTER

Volume 81 Issue 09

### Bernalillo County Commissioners to address LWVCNM September 2016



Art De La Cruz



Wayne Johnson

Art De La Cruz, Bernalillo County Commission Chair, and Wayne Johnson, Vice-Chair, will address the September 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 LWVCNM Luncheon Unit to discuss the Home Rule Charter initiative appearing on the November 2016 Ballot. The September Luncheon Unit will be held Thursday, 9/8/16, 11:45 am, at the MCM Elegante Hotel (2020 Menaul Blvd NE).

The passage of this ballot initiative will increase Bernalillo County flexibility in decisions without NM State approval. The resultant direct hire authority and management decisions of Bernalillo County would be more extensive with passage of the ballot measure. The proposed amendment was crafted by the Urban County Charter Commission. Current elected Bernalillo County positions include Commission members (5), Assessor, Clerk, Probate Judge, Sheriff, and Treasurer.

Art De La Cruz, District 2 Commissioner and Chair, is a life-long South Valley resident and still resides on the family homestead. He earned a bachelor's degree in University Studies and a master's degree in management from UNM. His career of public service has included senior management positions with the County and the City of Albuquerque. In 2003, he retired from Bernalillo County following 25 years of service where he spent

much of his career overseeing land and facilities acquisition and enhancing the quality of life through expanded community services. As Bernalillo County's Director of Parks and Recreation, he brokered the 640 acre Mesa Del Sol Regional Park project and instituted a variety of youth activities at all the community centers including before and after school care, literacy instruction, the largest state youth basketball program and [senior meal sites at Rio Bravo and Pajarito](#). After retirement, he taught business and management courses at Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) and was appointed by the Mayor to serve as Deputy Director of the Solid Waste Management Department for the City to lead sustainability efforts.

Wayne Johnson, District 5 Commissioner and Vice Chair, was elected to serve his first term as District 5 County Commissioner in Nov. 2010, and took office on Jan. 1, 2011. He was elected Vice-Chair of the Commission for a one-year term on Jan. 12, 2016. The first legislation he sponsored as a commissioner focused on creating a more open and transparent government at Bernalillo County. In early 2011, just weeks after taking office, the county's first Openness and Transparency Resolution (enacted as an ordinance in 2012) was passed. He led the county's first trade mission to a foreign country, visiting Israel in Spring 2013 with members of the city, county and state Economic Development offices, business owners, and representatives from the University of New Mexico, the Albuquerque International Trade Alliance and the New Mexico Israeli Business Exchange. Born and raised in Albuquerque, Commissioner Johnson attended Sandia High School and the University of New Mexico, He graduated with a degree

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The VOTER  
Published Monthly  
The League of Women Voters<sup>(t)</sup> of  
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**Office Hours**  
**September 5 - 30**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**10 am to Noon**

## September 2016

**Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30 pm Board Meeting**  
Landmark Apartments, Library  
6303 Indian School Rd NE

**Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Luncheon Reservation Deadline**

**Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> 11:45 am Luncheon Meeting**  
MCM Eleganté Hotel Albuquerque  
2020 Menaul NE

**Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Evening Unit**  
Erna Ferguson Library  
3700 San Mateo Blvd NE

**Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am NE Heights Unit**  
La Vida Llena  
10501 Lagrima de Oro Road NE

### *September Program continued from page 1*

in University Studies with an emphasis in Computer Engineering and Film/ Television, and is currently the president of Vista Media, a family-owned business. Prior to his service as a county commissioner, he served on various volunteer committees and boards, including the District 7 Coalition of Neighborhoods, the Mayor RJ Berry APD Transition Team, and the Bernalillo County Fire and Rescue Citizens Advisory Committee.

*Please make reservations for the September 8<sup>th</sup> Luncheon Unit Meeting by emailing [lunch@lwvcnm.org](mailto:lunch@lwvcnm.org), or calling the LWVCNM office (884-8441) by 10:00 am Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Please specify if you would like a vegetarian meal.*

**Evening Unit** - Olin Bray to discuss the environment and consequences of Brexit - Britain's exit from the EU

**NE Heights Unit** - Former NM House of Representatives Majority Leader Rick Miera to discuss Public Education in NM, current NM Ranking - Impact on Funding and the Economy, and future Outlook

Other contributions: Former HR District 11 (Albuquerque) 1991-2014 Chair & Vice-Chair, Legislative Education Study Committee, HR Education Chair (longest-serving), Education Committee of National Conference of State Legislatures

*The family just informed the office of the passing of our Lifetime Member.*

Ellen Ann Druliner Taylor

1922 to 2015

“...very involved in the League of Women voters (50 years) and many church committees as well. She was a champion for women's rights and worked for this cause in the league of Women Voters booth at the state fair for numerous years.” <http://www.legacy.com/>



### Our Office Volunteers

We have a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers who keep the LWVCNM office operating, and now we are happy to have several new volunteers to help with this job! Both new and longtime volunteers got together for lunch at the home of Diane Goldfarb on July 26. They socialized, traded stories and questions and signed up for future volunteer dates.

Located on San Pedro Ave. across from Coronado shopping center, the League office is the place where we field questions from the public as well as League members and provide a central location for members to meet and store information on our organization. The office is staffed Monday - Friday mornings by volunteers who work from 9:30 - noon. Most volunteers work two days a month, but others work less often or substitute. If you have an interest in volunteering some time in the office, please contact our administrative coordinator, Margaret Magee, [mageelwvcnm@gmail.com](mailto:mageelwvcnm@gmail.com). We will train you and give you an opportunity to shadow a current volunteer.

*Diane Goldfarb*

*Democracy is not a spectator sport*

### REMINDER

**If you shop at Amazon you can support League of Women Voters CNM Education Fund!**

Now you can do both with a simple change in the way you purchase from Amazon. Rather than shop at Amazon, go to Amazon Smiles.

<https://smile.amazon.com/>

Look in the upper left hand corner for the supporting line and if *League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico Education Fund* is not there, then click the little link on the far right of the line specifying the charity and replace it with:

**League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico Education Fund**

Then, whenever you purchase anything from Amazon, use Amazon Smiles, and then 0.5% of your purchases will aid the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico Education Fund.

**Note:** *It is very important to spell out the full name: League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico Education Fund.* This will make sure that our league gets credit and not, say, the League of Women Voters.<sup>(r)</sup> US.

*George Richmond*

### Important Dates

#### **Voter Registration Deadline**

5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2016

#### **Absentee Voting**

Absentee ballots will be mailed out to applicants Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016 through Friday, Nov. 4, 2016 at 5 p.m. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Bernalillo County Clerk's Office or to a polling location by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016.

#### **Early Voting**

Early voting begins at our Clerk's Annex **ONLY** on Tuesday, Oct. 11 and runs through Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016, Hours are Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Clerk's Annex is located at 1500 Lomas Blvd. NW.

Early voting begins at all of our other 19 locations on Saturday, October 22 - Saturday, November. 5, 2016, 8 am to 8 pm.

**Election Day - November 8, 2016**