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LWVCNM homepage: <http://www.lwvcnm.org>

Feb. 14 luncheon meeting to focus on domestic violence issues

The speakers for the Feb. 14 luncheon meeting will focus their joint presentation issues related to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking from the perspectives of legal and medical providers.

The luncheon meeting will be held at 11:45 a.m. at the MCM Elegante Hotel, 2020 Menaul N.E.

Although the Violence Against Women Act

reauthorization is dead now, it could be reinvigorated in this next Congress. The speakers will discuss the evolution of domestic violence and sexual assault laws and treatments and will share the medical and legal resources currently available to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The luncheon promises to be a dynamic and interactive presentation by persons very involved in these timely issues. Please bring your questions!

The two speakers are Gabriel Campos and Cameron Crandall, M.D.

Campos is the Chief Operations Officer at New Mexico Legal Aid. He also served as the director of the agency's Family Safety Division for eight years. Prior to his work at Legal Aid, he was the Chief of Staff for the 11th Judicial District Attorney's office in Gallup and held various engineering positions at General Motors, Miller Brewing and Westinghouse Electric.

Campos was recently reappointed by Governor Susana Martinez to the New Mexico Adult Parole Board and serves on the New Mexico Intimate Partner Violence Death Review Team as an appointed member charged with evaluating homicides related to domestic violence and sexual assault. In the past he has served on the board of

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LWVCNM past president Marilyn Morgan, left, introduces Dr. Lonna Atkeson, a political science professor at the University of New Mexico and speaker at the Jan. 10 luncheon. Atkeson's talk focused on November election results in New Mexico and in the nation. (Photo by Cheryl Haaker)

February Calendar

Feb. 5	Voter deadline
Feb. 5	APS/CNM Election
Feb. 5	League Day at the Legislature
Feb. 7	Board meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 12	Evening Unit, 6 p.m.
Feb. 14	Luncheon Unit, 11:45 a.m.
Feb. 25	NE Heights Unit, 10:30 a.m.

**League of Women Voters of
Central New Mexico
Board Meeting
1st Thursday of each month
Offices of Sutin, Thayer & Browne,
6565 Americas Parkway NE**

Program Committees

Drug Policy

Jan Bray

Natural Resources

Includes transportation, land use, air quality, water, and energy.

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

The *Voter* is published on partially-recycled paper each month by the League of Women Voters of Central New Mexico. It is also distributed via email.

LWVCNM to launch two new studies

A lively discussion during program planning led to the decision to undertake two studies this year that promise to be interesting and exciting.

Jan Bray and Shelly Shepherd will lead a study into mental health in New Mexico. They will immediately begin trying to learn what kinds of mental health treatment is available and how well it fills the need. They will be looking for volunteers to help them and will be setting up a way their committee will operate.

Mary Smith will lead an exploration into whether the Judicial Branch in the state is adequately funded to do the job it is tasked to fill. She will also be searching for volunteers to help her gather information and participate in the study.

In addition Carol Tucker Trelease will begin researching how other leagues have addressed the right to die question and whether the LWVCNM should take up the issue. She is currently following the lawsuit that has been filed by two physicians who wish to assist a terminally ill patient in ending her life on her own terms.

-- Karen Wentworth

Presidents' Corner

By Shelly Shepherd & Sandra Browne, co-presidents

By now all LWVCNM members who have paid their membership dues for 2013 should have received a copy of the 2013 Membership Handbook. Thank you for renewing your membership! If you have not sent in your dues (some of us may be forgetful) you can still do so, and we can provide you with the handbook. Preparing and distributing the directory is a huge and tedious project. We want to thank Laura Stokes, her committee and volunteers for making this publication possible. The Proofing Committee included Kathleen Altobelli, Diane Goldfarb, Peggy Howell, Therese Quinn, Laura Stokes, Andrea Targhetta and Helen Wright. Kathleen Altobelli helped with the formatting and fine tuning, and we greatly appreciate this time-consuming task she completed. Therese Quinn was in charge of the bulk mailing. Also, thank you Cheryl Haaker, our webmaster.

The 2013 *Who's Who* is now available. This is a very useful and popular publication, and thanks to Margaret Krahenbuhl, her committee and volunteers it was possible to have it printed in time for League Day at the Legislature. Kudos! Pati Brummett, Merri Rudd, Laura Stokes and Andrea Targhetta were of great help in preparation of the *Who's Who*.

We recognize the excellent *Voter* publications that editor Chris Burroughs has produced, not only in 2013 but for many years. She also stepped up to the plate when *La Palabra* did not have an editor.

Most of us are not aware of the time commitment these publications require. They just appear in the mail, at meetings, functions and events "like magic." However, much of the work must be done during the holidays in December. While most of us are busy getting ready for our holiday get-togethers, these volunteers are hard at work. If you see one of these devoted women, be sure to thank them. Last but definitely not least we thank our dedicated LWVCNM office volunteers for 2012. These dedicated volunteers are often the first contact the public has to LWV-CNM. Thank you Judith Binder, Alice Brasfield, Linda Cotton, Karen Gatlin, Diane Goldfarb, Leah Ingraham, Margaret Krahenbuhl, Susan McKinstry, Sharon Moynahan, Josephine Porter, Therese Quinn, Carol Steeves, Andrea Targhetta, Meg Wente and Helen Wright.

We also thank those who volunteered in other ways, such as in preparing and distributing the 2012 *Voters' Guide* (as mentioned in the December 2012 *Voter*) or by helping in other ways throughout 2012. Without our faithful volunteers the LWVCNM could not provide voter information, voter registration, forums, functions of various types, and have the respected reputation that it has in the community for providing nonpartisan, unbiased voter services to the citizens of Central New Mexico. Thank you all! Keep up the exceptional work.

Book Review -- *Intelligence and U.S. Foreign Policy*

Editor's Note: Book Review -- 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*

Intelligence and U.S. Foreign Policy: Iraq, 9/11, and Misguided Reform, By Paul R. Pillar, 2011, Columbia University Press, 413 pages.

This book describes some important assumptions and realities about the role of intelligence in formulating and conducting U.S. foreign policy. Although foreign policy and international relations are not major areas for the League, Pillar's points also raise important issues for many domestic policy areas. Pillar, now a professor at Georgetown University, served in several senior positions in the CIA and the National Intelligence Council.

He makes several key points and supports them with data and examples from various foreign policy cases, such as the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, 9/11 and the U.S. wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. First, in spite of our model of how the process works, intelligence rarely determines our policy and is often not even a major input into it. Policy makers make their decisions based on their own images and models of how the world works. They often developed these models far before they came into office. When they do accept intelligence input, it is often only when it supports their preexisting models. Second, the key role of intelligence is NOT prediction, but to help policy makers understand what is happening and make better decisions. A key part of this role is to identify and challenge the frequently unstated but critical assumptions. Third, most of the attempts to reform intelligence, which usually occur after a major crisis or failure, focus on the formulation of intelligence rather than the more critical problems -- the relationship between intelligence analysts and intelligence consumers and the politicization of intelligence by the policy makers to sell their preferred policy, such as with the Iraq War. Fourth, given there will always be uncertainty, policy cannot and should not be optimized for a specific preferred situation. It should be one that works reasonably well in a wide range of situations that may occur. Better analysis and more data can reduce the uncertainty, but cannot eliminate it.

Many domestic policy areas have many of the same problems, although they don't have a formal

"intelligence community" available to provide them with better, more analytical information to help inform their decision makers. The closest equivalent is the program evaluation staff in some departments or for some major programs.

Unfortunately, such program evaluation costs money and many programs don't have the funding for the necessary data collection and analysis. Whatever analysis staff is available is usually within a specific department, not separate and independent as are many of the intelligence agencies. A key difference is that intelligence analysis occurs before the decision is made, whereas program evaluation occurs after the policy and decision has been made and implemented. However, the evaluation framework and approach can and should be done before the decision, so like intelligence it could help the decision maker.

Let's consider each of Pillar's four points in terms of domestic policy, considering that the program evaluation organizations, when they do exist, are less formalized, less well funded and less independent from the policy making and implementing organizations. First, domestic policy makers do seem to have and use their own models rather than rely on extensive research to explain what is happening. The basic assumptions seem to change with different administrations and their cabinet appointees, but usually because of ideology rather than rigorous analysis. Second, the role of program evaluation is very much like intelligence, not prediction, but rather to help policy makers understand what is happening and make better, more effective policies and decisions.

The third point is a little different. Demands for intelligence reform are often driven by a single major disaster. Domestic policy reform is usually driven by the accumulation of many problems and failures, rather than by a single event. Also the focus is usually to change the domestic policy, not the analysis or evaluation process. However, where there is program analysis and evaluation, whether from government staff or think tanks and universities, the same type of politicization seems to occur. Rarely do congressional hearings try to understand reports and explain the differences in their results. They use the results to sell their own policies and challenge the credibility of those reports that seem to question those policies. Finally, as with foreign policy, domestic policy will always have high uncertainty that must be dealt with.

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Thank You to Our 2012 Donors

The League depends on the generosity of many people to support its programs and operations. We thank all of you who contributed to LWVCNM in 2012. We are grateful for your help in making 2012 a success.

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In addition, we thank all of you who purchased tickets to the Rodey Theatre fundraiser and sponsorships in the Member Handbook.

Contributions to the Operating Fund enable LWVCNM to maintain an office, to advance its advocacy efforts and to support member programs.

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Donations to the LWVCNM Education Fund support community education projects, primarily the annual *Voters' Guide*, *Who's Who: A Political Director*, and public forums. If your name does not appear above and you think it should, please notify our office. We apologize for any omissions or errors.

Volunteers & In-kind donors

As an all-volunteer organization LWVCNM depends on each of you who gives your time and energy or who has provided goods and services at your own expense. Whether you paid for something that benefited the League, chaired a committee, helped with an event, brought food, gathered information, proofread a publication, distributed the Voters' Guide, or did any of a multitude of tasks in 2012, please accept our heartfelt thanks.

**WE SALUTE ALL OF
OUR VOLUNTEERS
AND BENEFACTORS.
YOU MAKE OUR
WORK POSSIBLE.**

February unit meetings

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directors of the New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Providers and Haven House Domestic Violence shelter in Rio Rancho.

Crandall is a Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of New Mexico. He is originally from Seattle and graduated from the University of Washington before relocating to Baltimore, Md. to study medicine and public health at the Johns Hopkins University. He moved to New Mexico in 1993 to complete his residency in emergency medicine. He joined the faculty in the UNM School of Medicine in 1996.

Crandall's research interests are in injury and violence epidemiology. He was one of the original investigators on the New Mexico Intimate Partner Violence Death Review Team and was a member of the New Mexico's Attorney General's Train-the-Trainer team and a consultant on the Attorney General's Task Force on Improving the Enforcement of Orders of Protection in New Mexico.

Reservations for the lunch must be made by 10 a.m. on Feb. 11. The cost of lunch is \$15. To make a reservation, please call the LWVCNM office at 884-8441 or email lunch@lwvcnm.org.

Evening Unit --Feb. 12 at 6 p.m.

Carolyn Kaye, a long-time pay equity expert and advocate, will provide a brief background of the issue of pay equity for women in New Mexico. She and immediate past president of LWVCNM Jan Bray wrote a pay equity bill that was passed by both the House and Senate and vetoed by Governor Johnson. Kaye will share some of the latest information from recent studies on the pay gap.

The meeting will be at 6 p.m. at the Erna Fergusson Library Community Room, 3700 San Mateo N.E.

NE Heights Unit -- Feb. 25 at 10:30 a.m.

Jan Bray will share information on the pay gap between women and men, the paycheck fairness act, and stories about glass ceiling lawsuits against universities and colleges brought by the Legal Advocacy Fund of the American Association of University Women.

The meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the La Vida Llena Retirement Community, 10501

Book Review

(Continued from page 3)

These uncertainties can relate to the size, scope, and costs of a program, the nature of its participants, the social science mechanisms that enable the program to work or not work, and how successful the program is - sometimes even in the metrics to be used to measure that success. Therefore, policies need to be effective across a range of situations rather than optimized for what the policy maker might believe or hope is happening.

In summary, this book on intelligence and foreign policy raises many issues and questions that also apply to many domestic policy areas. Some, although not all, of the solutions proposed may also work for other policy areas.

***Hello Dolly* to be fundraising event**

We are excited to announce that this year's annual LWVCNM Theater Event Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, March 17 from 2-5 p.m. at the Rodey Theatre (next to Popejoy Hall) at UNM in Albuquerque. The classic and beloved musical, *Hello Dolly*, will be presented by Landmark Musicals at the matinee performance, followed by a reception for LWV attendees in the upstairs terrace. The reception will be provided by the LWVCNM Board. *Hello Dolly* follows the antics of matchmaker Dolly Levi as she plies her trade in New York City. It is filled with fun and great music.

To reserve your seat, mail a check to the LWVCNM office for \$28 per person with a notation that the check is for *Hello Dolly* tickets. Please RSVP no later than March 11. As the tickets are for specific seats, please attach a note with your check if you have any special seating requirements. Your actual tickets will be available at the performance at the LWV desk outside Rodey Theater. Tickets for the event may NOT be purchased at the door so be sure to order your tickets now.

The parking structure next to Popejoy Hall is available, and there is no charge when a handicap placard is presented to the attendant. The number of tickets is limited (and best in the house), so be sure to make your reservation early. Last year's theater event was enjoyed by many and raised over \$800 for the Operating Fund. So don't miss out on the fun!

-- Shelly Shepherd

LWVCNM seeks part-time office coordinator, assistant to president

LWVCNM wishes to hire a part-time coordinator for the office and assist the president. We are searching for an energetic person who wants to hone his/her skills. This is a great opportunity to fill a void in our office, make it more functional for all of us, and to utilize your talents.

Job Summary:

The person in this position will provide administrative support for the LWVCNM president; attend all CNM Board meetings; although not a voting member; recruit, train and schedule office volunteers and coordinate all office functions; categorize and maintain office files while keeping the environment safe, clean, organized and in good working order; coordinate all information on League functions; and schedule

events for the members, organizational partners, governmental entities, and the public. The coordinator will perform any other duties as assigned by the president. Duties desired by other members must be approved by the president.

Qualifications:

- * Must have proficient computer knowledge and a willingness to learn new programs as needed.
- * Must exhibit good personal and people skills working with volunteers.
- * Must possess good organizational skills.

Wages are \$10.00 an hour for approximately 40 hours per month to be paid monthly.

-- Diane Goldfarb

Can you help us find a desk?

The desk in the League office has seen better days and does not have sufficient drawer space. So we are in the market for a new desk with drawers. The current desk is 64 inches wide and 29 inches deep -- the maximum our little office can handle. If you have a

desk you would like to donate or know where we could buy a reasonably- priced new or used desk, please call the League office at 884-8441. Your office staff would greatly appreciate help with this.

-- Diane Goldfarb

The Violence Against Women Act

By Shelly Shepherd

The Violence Against Women Act was first passed in 1994 and has been renewed twice since then. What could be offensive to a bill that was designed to protect victims of physical and sexual assault? The legislation would have continued existing grant programs to local law enforcement and battered women shelters and would have expanded efforts to reach Native American tribes and rural areas. It would have increased the availability of free legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, would have extended the definition of violence against women to include stalking and would have provided training for civil and criminal court personnel to deal with families with a history of violence. It would also have allowed more battered illegal immigrants to claim temporary visas, and would include same-sex couples in programs for domestic violence.

It all comes down to politics. Last April, the Senate passed a version of VAWA that extended protections to these vulnerable communities. However, House Republicans refused to support the legislation and

passed their own stripped-down bill, complaining that Democrats had included the new measures specifically to make Republicans look bad by forcing them to oppose the act. One Republican Senator said at the time the VAWA legislation came up for formal review that the act "creates so many new programs for underserved populations that it risks losing the focus on helping victims, period."

The effect will be millions of women and their families will be affected by the failure to re-authorize this act. Washington Senator Patty Murray, a key supporter of the bill, stated "the House's failure to take up and pass the Senate's bipartisan and inclusive VAWA bill is inexcusable. This is a bill passed with 68 votes in the Senate and that extends the bill's protection to 30 million more women." Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi stated during reauthorization debates, "All Americans are entitled to feel safe in their workplace, in their homes and walking on our streets. Yet too many women continue to live in fear. And that is why we must reauthorize -- and strengthen-and pass the Violence Against

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Violence against women

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Women Act.”

There will be real effects from VAWA not being renewed. Among other things, the act provides funding for rape-crisis centers and community violence prevention programs around the country, as well as money for legal aid for female victims of violence and the investigation and prosecution of violent crimes against women. It also establishes a federal rape shield law that prevents rape victims from being interrogated on the stand about past sexual behavior.

Even without reauthorization, VAWA will remain on the books in its 2005 form. However, budget crises at the state and local levels mean that without renewed authorization, the withholding of federal funding will have a dramatic impact on the ability of groups to provide services to victims of assault, abuse and sexual violence.

Native American women are particularly at heightened risk. According to the Indian Law Resource Center, one out of three Native American women will be raped in their lifetime, three out of five will be physically assaulted and on some reservations the murder rate for Native American women is as high as 10 times the national average. American Tribal courts have limited

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jurisdiction to try cases in which Native American women are physically or sexually assaulted by non-Native American men on tribal lands.

Currently, such cases must be heard in federal courts, leading to lengthy delays if there is a trial at all. According to the center, the vast majority of these crimes committed against Native American women (88 per cent) are committed by non-Native American men. In such cases, tribal courts are unable to try these cases, putting women at greater risk since their attackers know they can act with impunity.

Some of our political leaders need to be much more enlightened in the area of violence against women. In Steubenville, Ohio, an unconscious 15-year-old female student was repeatedly assaulted by two high school students, both star football players, who were not charged with a crime. During the assault, witnesses took pictures that were later posted on line and tweeted about the incident as it happened. Although informed of the pictures last fall, the high school football coach didn't even bench the players. Some of our political leaders aren't much more enlightened. One mission of the League of Women Voters is education and to take action when the inexcusable happens in our government.



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