

## Legislative Preview Highlights



*AAUW member Helena Whyte thanks state legislators for passing the Equal Pay Resolution last year, guaranteeing New Mexico Women equal pay. New Mexico is among the states that have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment. Three more states must ratify the amendment for it to become law.*

*Photo by Carol A. Clark/ladailypost.com*



*AAUW member Nina Thayer asks for contributions to the Jean Nereson Books Memorial. AAUW has been raising funds to honor Jean Nereson, who taught in the Los Alamos elementary schools for 52 years. The LAPS Foundation recently gave \$5,000 from the fund to benefit each of LAPS' five elementary school libraries. The Foundation will give funds annually for the purchase of new books.*

*Photo by Carol A. Clark/ladailypost.com*

If you missed the legislative preview here is a link to an article and photos.  
[LA Daily Post article on the legislative preview.](#)

## Great Decisions

Carroll Thomas is organizing the morning group for 2013-14 Great Decisions. Her contact information is [ctgb@earthlink.net](mailto:ctgb@earthlink.net), 672-1937. The group meets at 10:00 a.m. at the Mesa Public Library upstairs meeting room: The schedule follows:

Jan 27 #2 Israel and the U.S...Marilyn Doolen  
Feb 10 #8 U.S. trade policy...Group discussion  
Feb 24 #1 Defense technology ...Denise George  
Mar 10 #6 Food and climate...Ginny Tan/Andrea Gerstle  
Mar 24 #5 Energy Independence... Thelma Hahn  
Apr 7 #3 Turkey's challenges...Angela Coop/Karin Roberts  
Apr 21 #7 China's foreign policy...Mona Wecksung  
May 5 #4 Islamic awakening... Carroll Thomas

Helena Whyte, [mozden08@aol.com](mailto:mozden08@aol.com), 672-9153, is organizing the evening group. The organizational meeting for the evening group will be January 23rd at 7:30 p.m. at Helena's house, 100 El Morro St. in White Rock. The group will discuss topic #6 Food and climate.

Both groups welcome visitors.

## Non-fiction Book Group

On March 24, 2014, we will discuss Leadership the Eleanor Roosevelt Way by Robin Gerber. Helena Whyte is the discussion leader. We do not have a hostess. Please let Denise know if you would like to host the meeting.

## Book Group

The February book is Secret Daughter by Shily Somaya Gowda.

The Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7:30 p.m. meeting is at Chris Sierk's home at 4640 Ridgeway (LA).

The Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. meeting is at Marilyn Minshall's home at 536 Brighton (WR).

Please phone or e-mail the hostess if you plan on attending:

Chris at 662-3894, [acsierk@hotmail.com](mailto:acsierk@hotmail.com);  
Marilyn at 672-3499, [mjminshall@q.com](mailto:mjminshall@q.com)

Friday, Feb. 7: girls' basketball game, 5 p.m. at Northern New Mexico College in Espanola. Contact Helena Whyte 672-9153(h), 690-7824(cell) for details.

## Future Programs

March will feature an international affairs program with Ed Rau's talk "A Furor in the Muslim World." Watch for details in the next newsletter.

The Spring Tea is scheduled for May 16 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Gathering Space.

## Branch News

There is no February branch program.

Judy Prono and Nina Thayer attended the AAUW-NM Lobby Corps meeting on January 15th in Albuquerque with information presented by Dick Mason, VP for the NM League of Women Voters. Upcoming legislative issues discussed included bills regarding private, online, for-profit charter schools as well as the bills proposed by Think New Mexico to encourage job growth.

Tech Trek Update: AAUW-Las Cruces' most recent press release, "STEM Summer Camp for Middle School Girls," will run in the *LA Monitor* this week. Any 7th grade girl who wants to attend the camp needs to ask her science or math teacher to recommend her. Our Coordinating Council has sent a funding request to LANL's Community Relations Office asking for \$1500 to help support camp participation for three girls from northern New Mexico.

A \$mart \$tart workshop will be held on February 28, 2014, from 9 a.m. to noon. The workshop teaches students how to determine what employers are paying for a desired job and how to negotiate, after graduation, to be paid what the job is worth. Elizabeth Rademacher is being trained as the workshop facilitator.

## Title IX, Supporting Girls' Sports

LA Cares thanks us for our holiday service project:

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the gift of fresh fruit, so beautifully packaged and donated for the December Food Distribution. We are very grateful, both for your concerns and for your generosity. Our clients were surprised and very pleased to receive something so special.

We are already experiencing the effects of the recent decrease in the food stamp program and other services; when clients call to request assistance, they frequently mention the difficulties caused by these changes. We are

seeing an increase in both food and financial needs, and anticipate further escalation, particularly with the arrival of winter and rising utility expenses. Your outreach brightened what for many has become a dismal financial picture. On behalf of those many needy clients, thank you!

Sincerely,  
Linda F. Burns  
Secretary, LA Cares

### Branch Calendar

Feb	3,4	Book group
Feb	10	Morning Great Decisions
Feb	20	Council meeting at Judy Prono's
Feb	24	Morning Great Decisions

### Coordinating Council for 2013-14

Mona Wecksung	Co-Treasurer/Membership	662-7084	<a href="mailto:wecksung2005@msn.com">wecksung2005@msn.com</a>
Judy Prono	Facilitator/Public Policy	662-2691	<a href="mailto:djprono@msn.com">djprono@msn.com</a>
Natalie Markin	Co-Treasurer/International Affairs	662-9399	<a href="mailto:natalie@lanb.com">natalie@lanb.com</a> <a href="mailto:natgmark@aol.com">natgmark@aol.com</a>
Nina Thayer	Program	662-6835	<a href="mailto:gnthayer@cybermesa.com">gnthayer@cybermesa.com</a>
Marilyn Doolen	Publicity	672-3571	<a href="mailto:mtdoolen@aol.com">mtdoolen@aol.com</a>
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	<a href="mailto:mgiesler@unm.edu">mgiesler@unm.edu</a>
Ginny White	Secretary	500-8009, 695-2072	<a href="mailto:ginny@atomicski.org">ginny@atomicski.org</a>
<b>Non-council positions</b>			
Jane Sherwood	Hospitality	662-3194	<a href="mailto:jane.sherwood@att.net">jane.sherwood@att.net</a>
Denise George	Newsletter	672-9688	<a href="mailto:georgeje@acm.org">georgeje@acm.org</a>
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	<a href="mailto:mjminshall@q.com">mjminshall@q.com</a>
Rosmarie Frederickson	Nominating Chair	662-5915	<a href="mailto:frederrh@yahoo.com">frederrh@yahoo.com</a>