

## Honoring Women Making History

**Tuesday, March 23, 7:00pm**

In honor of Women's History Month, learn about the lives of inspiring contemporary women who are making history in the areas of science, arts and humanities. These women demonstrate strength and dedication in overcoming obstacles on the paths to achieving their dreams. Some of these names will be familiar to us all and some will be new; we will all leave the meeting with admiration and appreciation of the contributions of these amazing women. This program consists of a series of short sketches presented by branch members; if you would like to present your hero's story, contact Denise to be added to the program.

The Zoom meeting will be hosted by Denise George; she will send all members the Zoom link a few days before the meeting. Guests are welcome, ask your guest to request a link by sending email to [AAUWLA@icloud.com](mailto:AAUWLA@icloud.com).



## Book Group

Zoom meetings will be hosted by Rozelle Wright and Denise George. All group members will receive meeting invitations to both meetings. Other branch members who wish to be invited should contact Karin Roberts, [karinroberts875@icloud.com](mailto:karinroberts875@icloud.com), to be added to the group mailing list. Evening meetings are on the first Monday of the month at 7pm. The daytime group meets the following Tuesday at 1pm.

The March book is The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson. Maryjane Giesler will lead the discussions. The dates for the meetings are March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A complete schedule is under the **study group** tab of our website at: [2020-2021 Book Group Schedule](#)

## Nonfiction Book Group

The next Zoom meeting is April 19, 7:00pm. The book is The Bad Ass Librarians of Timbuktu by Joshua Hamer. Nina Thayer will lead the discussion. Denise George will host the meeting.

## Great Decisions

The remaining meetings are:

Mar 11	Karin	Brexit and the EU
Mar 25	Julie	The Arctic
April 1	Marilyn D	China in Africa
April 15	Carroll	The Two Koreas
April 2	Helena	WHO's Response to Covid-19

## Fruit Project

After the December distribution, we had \$336.45 for fruit for February. We purchased  
2 boxes of bananas  
3 boxes of apples  
30 bags of clementines

The cost for February fruit was \$274.94. This left \$71.51 which was donated to LA Cares.

Submitted by Denise George, Project Lead

## Roundhouse Roundup

The governor has signed SB 10, repeal of the old (1969) abortion ban, reestablishing women's rights

to make their own healthcare decisions. In other legislation AAUW is following, the Redistricting Act (HB 211/SB 199) has hit a roadblock in terms of House Speaker Brian Egolf's opposition. There is talk that SB15, sponsored by Sen. Ivey-Soto, will be pushed as a compromise bill that might gain support. However, that bill would create a redistricting commission drawn only from the state's political parties. The original redistricting bills would have the parties name members to the commission but also have the State Ethics Commission appoint members and have the commission chaired by a member of the state judiciary. Lynn Heffron, AAUW-NM co-President, wrote a letter to the editor in the Feb. 27 *Santa Fe New Mexican* noting AAUW's support for the original bills ("AAUW supports independent commission for redistricting"). It's all about transparency and public input in redrawing state election districts after the 2020 census.

AAUW-NM's Lobby Corps is also following HB38, Paid Family & Medical Leave Act, and HB 110, Phased Minimum Wage. These have been proceeding through committee hearings but their futures are uncertain given the governor's recent comments that this is not the time for their passage. We are also following SB 66/HB 99, the predatory lending acts that would cap interest rates on small loans (<\$10K) at 36%; they are awaiting committee hearings in both houses.

As we come down the home stretch of this Legislative session, which ends March 20, you may receive email requests to get in touch with Rep. Chandler or Sens. Jaramillo/Gonzales to support these or other bills we are following. There is sure to be a frenzy of legislative activity as we move through March.

Email addresses for Senators and Representative:  
[christine.chandler@nmlegis.gov](mailto:christine.chandler@nmlegis.gov)  
[roberto.gonzales@nmlegis.gov](mailto:roberto.gonzales@nmlegis.gov) (WR)  
[leo.jaramillo@nmlegis.gov](mailto:leo.jaramillo@nmlegis.gov) (LA)

Submitted by Judy Prono, Public Policy Rep.

# LA Cares

PO Box 248  
Los Alamos, NY 87544  
(505) 661-8015

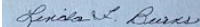
February 23, 2021

AAUW  
c/o Denise George  
411 Cheryl Avenue  
Los Alamos, NM 87547

Dear Friends,

Once again, we thank you for your continued generosity, making fresh fruit available to all our food pantry clients during the December and February distributions. We are also very grateful for the "leftover" \$71.51 which will be a jump-start for March. So many of our clients continue to express their appreciation for the gift of quality, fresh fruit, and the improved nutrition it provides. Your thoughtful caring has a positive impact on the lives of the local needy. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Linda F. Burns  
Secretary

## Coordinating Council 2020-2021

Alahna Weller	Facilitator The duties of facilitator will be shared among the council members	672-9539	<a href="mailto:acweller@comcast.net">acweller@comcast.net</a>
Carol Neal	Secretary	662-7256	<a href="mailto:the_neals@prodigy.net">the_neals@prodigy.net</a>
Bev Cooper	Publicity	672-9696	<a href="mailto:bcooper@cybermesa.com">bcooper@cybermesa.com</a>
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	662-5574	<a href="mailto:mgiesler@unm.edu">mgiesler@unm.edu</a>
Margaret Gibson	Membership/Treasurer	672-3609	<a href="mailto:mfgibson1943@yahoo.com">mfgibson1943@yahoo.com</a>
Denise George	Newsletter/Webmaster	672-9688	<a href="mailto:denisegeorge@icloud.com">denisegeorge@icloud.com</a>
Terry Marzili	Co-Treasurer	661-4214	<a href="mailto:tmarzili@aol.com">tmarzili@aol.com</a>
Judy Prono	Public Policy	662-2691	<a href="mailto:djprono@msn.com">djprono@msn.com</a>
<b>Appointed positions</b>			
Helena Whyte	STEM	672-9153	<a href="mailto:mozden08@aol.com">mozden08@aol.com</a>
Marilyn Minshall	Historian	672-3499	<a href="mailto:mjbminshall237@q.com">mjbminshall237@q.com</a>
Mary Ann Lindahl	Hospitality	662-0995	<a href="mailto:moonbeamx@comcast.net">moonbeamx@comcast.net</a>
????	Nominating Chair		

## Calendar

Mar 1,2	Book Group: <u>The Splendid and the Vile</u>
Mar 11	Great Decisions: Brexit
Mar 23	Branch Meeting: Honoring Women Making History
Mar 25	Great Decisions: The Arctic



## 'Life is just a box of chocolates'

This is a love story that extends over 52½ years. It is a vibrant red velvet heart loaded with rich caramels, truffles and crème selections and tied with a satin bow with shining loops. The story starts when the two, Maryjane and Gregg Giesler, met at the University of Illinois at Urbana; she a freshman and he a sophomore. They were introduced on a blind date arranged by her hall mate and his roommate.

He was a chemistry major, and she needed this subject and had to work hard on it in high school. She was an English major who had tested out of English 101 and 102, and he was in remedial English. So they both had ulterior motives for going on a second date. They dated until she went on to student teach in a suburb of Chicago. But the sweetest caramel of all was when they were engaged and married on June 22, 1968.

Little did they know the adventure of that satin ribbon. After marriage, Gregg received his doctorate in nuclear

chemistry, and Maryjane got her M.A. in British lit, both from Michigan State University; Maryjane taught at Lansing Catholic Central. When Gregg was finished, they moved on to Los Alamos, so Gregg could work for the Lab. There they enjoyed their oldest daughter Susan. But the ribbon of adventure was not done with them. Nineteen months later, they had triplets, Jana, Jon and Jeff, the first set of triplets to be born in L.A., and then the excitement really started. Raising four children including triplets while building a home sure has a number of challenges, the chewy nougats in the heart-shaped box. This shows the degree of cooperation and communication needed to keep this family going. There were some real challenges including an egg story that would make anyone laugh, showing the need for good humor. Those years when all were in high school at LAHS and all played three sports apiece and showed the need for hard work and attention. But all four ended up in major universities, some on scholarships.



Now those white chocolate truffles have really stood out as all four are married and there are nine grandchildren. In total the happy twosome has expanded to 19. And that ribbon ended up being tied in a huge bow at a big celebration on the Harmony of the Seas in June of 2018 to celebrate the big 50. Now Maryjane and Gregg have plenty of time to take trips and see other countries and cultures. They both still work: he at the Lab and she teaches at UNM-LA. And they still look forward to any challenging times ahead and more chocolates from that heart shaped box.

Maryjane and Gregg Giesler

Our branch member, Maryjane Giesler, shared her Valentine story with readers of the Albuquerque Journal.