

Hilltopics



March Branch Meeting on Zoom Self Help Diane Smogor and Megan Fox Tuesday, March 7th, 10 a.m.

The two directors of Self Help will tell us how their organization helps those in poverty in northern New Mexico. Self Help receives funding from grants and donations and receives money collected by the Salvation Army during the holiday season. Self Help provides assistance with rent and utility needs and makes referrals to other organizations that might be able to remediate the particular needs of the person asking for assistance. Diane and Megan will answer questions at the end of their presentation.

A Zoom link will be sent to members in a separate e-mail. Guests may join the meeting by sending a request for the link to <u>AAUWLA@icloud.com</u>



Women's History Month Events

Ruth Bader Ginsburg: Notorious RBG Saturday, March 18, 1 p.m. *This event is being offered in hybrid format. Attend either in person at Fuller Lodge or online. See below for details. Use this link to register: https://laconm.libcal.com/event/10212253

Ruth Bader Ginsburg is celebrated for her work as an attorney, federal judge, and Supreme Court justice (notably on behalf of gender equality). Her life will be presented by Dr. Dianne Layden in both a lecture and Chautauqua portrayal that include her judicial opinions, family life, and reverence for opera. Ginsburg's friendship with fellow justice and opera lover Antonin Scalia became the subject of the opera Scalia/Ginsburg, now performed worldwide. She visited Santa Fe with her family for many years and called the Santa Fe Opera the finest summer opera company in the world.

This program is made possible by the generous support of the New Mexico Humanities Council and Friends of Los Alamos County Libraries.

SALA Event Center

Women's History Month series offers "Timeless Stories of Strong Women": Little Women, Selena, A League of Her Own, Erin Brockovich

International Women series offers "Unconventional Narratives": Volver, Harriet, Frida, The Glorias

Check this link for schedules. <u>https://sala.losalamos.com</u>. Go to *tickets* to find the dates of the showings.

Equal Pay Day Luncheon

Saturday, March 25 at noon, sponsored by AAUW-Santa Fe and held at Dr. Field Goods (formerly Santa Fe Bar & Grill) at DeVargas Center.

Our speaker will be Representative Pamelya Herndon, President/CEO of the KWH Law Center for Social Justice and Change, member of the AAUW Albuquerque branch, former Public Policy Chair for AAUW NM.

The price per person will be between \$25 and \$30. We need a minimum number

of attendees to have this program. As soon as the menu and pricing are available the information will be sent out.

PLEASE RESPOND TO <u>AAUWINSANTAFE@GMAIL.COM</u> IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING. SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR PROMPT RESPONSE.

Branch Council Members Needed

Three Council members will term-limit out this spring, and council is looking for replacements for two-year terms. Council meetings are held once a month on Zoom. Once the Council forms, positions are decided at a summer meeting. If you decide to join the Council, you will be able to choose a position that best fits you. We need a full council to keep our branch functioning. Current Council members will be phoning branch members to urge you to consider joining us!

Book Group

The March book is <u>Peach Blossom Spring</u> by Melissa Fu. The author is a graduate of Los Alamos High School, and the book contains a section set in Los Alamos. Goodreads recommends: "A beautifully rendered novel about war, migration, and the power of telling our stories, <u>Peach Blossom</u> <u>Spring</u> follows three generations of a Chinese family on their search for a place to call home" Els Hoffer, 505 Grand Canyon will host the March 6th, 7:00 pm meeting; let her know if you are coming (505 672 3245, jimnelshoffer@icloud.com)

The 1pm, March 7th Zoom meeting will be hosted by Rozelle Wright; she will send out a link. Maryjane Giesler will lead the discussion at both meetings.

The year's schedule is under the **study groups** tab of our website at: <u>https://losalamos-nm.aauw.net/files/2022/09/2022-2023.pages_.pdf.</u>

If you wish to be added to the book group membership list, contact Karin Roberts (505-672-9625, <u>karinroberts875@icloud.com</u>).



Nonfiction Book Group

On April 17th at 7:00 pm the group will discuss <u>A Portrait of the Scientist as a Young Woman</u> by Lindy Elkins-Tanton. Amazon recommends: "From one of the world's leading planetary scientists, a luminous memoir of exploration on Earth, in space, and within oneself—equal parts ode to the beauty of science, meditation on loss, and roadmap for personal resilience". Denise George will review. The meeting will be hybrid: in-home and Zoom. The link will be sent to group members before the meeting. Denise George will host the 7:00 pm meeting at 411 Cheryl Ave. Let her know if you are coming (denisegeorge@icloud.com, 505-690-3534).

If you wish to join the group, please contact Margaret Gibson (<u>mfgibson332@gmail.com</u>, 505-228-4356).

Great Decisions

This group meets every other Thursday at the White Rock library. Meetings are hybrid: in-person and by Zoom. Branch members who have not joined the group are welcome to sample a Zoom session; Denise will be happy to send out a link if asked (<u>denisegeorge@icloud.com</u>, 505-690-3534).

Date	Торіс	Discussion Leader
Jan. 19	Energy Geopolitics	Denise George
Feb 2	Climate Migration	Carol Neal
Feb 16	Iran at the Crossroads	Judy Prono
March 2	Politics in Latin America	Karin Roberts
March 16	War Crimes	Bev Cooper
March 30	China and the U.S.	Marilyn Doolen
April 13	Global Famine	Margaret Gibson
April 27	Economic Warfare	Carroll Thomas

Final Report for the "Fire Book Project—Colorado"

In early 2022, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed for the purpose of doing a project to benefit schools in Boulder County of Colorado that suffered serious consequences of the Marshall Fire that began December 30, 2021. That fire grew to be the most destructive wildfire in Colorado State history. The committee chose to provide appropriate books to each elementary and/or middle school in or near the fire damaged areas whose student body contained a considerable number of pupils whose lives had been adversely affected by the fire. Members of the branch contributed \$575 in support of the project.

Members of that committee were: Carol Neal, Judy Crocker, Sue Watts, Ginny White, Bev Cooper, and Nina Thayer.

Judy Crocker made contact with Rae Ciciora, Technical Services Librarian, for the Boulder County School System. Ms Ciciora listed 52 schools in the system attended by students who had been

affected by the fire. She identified 7 schools as the most severely affected.

The committee purchased 100 copies of *The Forest and the Fire,* written by local author Teralene Foxx and illustrated by Alison Carlisi for \$1 each from the historical society. The committee sent 87 copies of Teralene's book—one copy to each of the 52 schools and an extra 5 copies to each of the 7 of most severely affected schools.

Carol Neal designed and printed book plates to put in each of the books that the branch donated.



Rae Ciciora consulted with the librarians of each of the severely impacted schools and sent us a list of desired books for six schools. They were ordered, book plates attached, shipped and delivered to the schools. The additional books ordered were those of greatest interest to the librarians. Here are the schools that received books and the titles each received:

Louisville Elementary: Patchwork and Library Bus

Fireside Elementary: A Little Dog With a Big Heart (Picture Book), Lumberjacula, and Finding Gabi (Intermediate) – 2 copies

Superior Elementary: Magical Yet and What If, Pig

Coal Creek Elementary: Magical Yet and What If, Pig

Eldorado K-8: Superteacher Project, 9:08 Project, and Rabbit's Gifts

Monarch K-8: Loud Mouse, Lumberjacula, and Finding Gobi (Intermediate) – 2 copies.

The fund has \$155 remaining and is considering a similar project for schools impacted by the New Mexico Hermit Peak/Calf Canyon fire.

Calendar

March 7	Branch meeting	
March 6,7	Book Group	
March 2,16, 30	Great Decisions	

Coordinating Council 2022-2023

Carol Neal	Co-Facilitator	505-662-7256	the_neals@prodigy.net
Judy Prono	Co-Facilitator/Public Policy	505-662-2691	djprono@msn.com
Margaret Gibson	Secretary	505-672-3609	mfgibson332@gmail.com
Alahna Weller	Membership	505-672-9539	acweller@comcast.net
Bev Cooper	Publicity	505-672-9696	bcooper@cybermesa.com
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	505-662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu
Marilyn Doolen	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion/Historian	505-672-3571	mtdoolen@aol.com
Mary Ann Lindahl	Treasurer	505-660-2259	moonbeamx@comcast.net
Appointed positions			
Helena Whyte	STEM	505-672-9153	mozden08@aol.com
Nina Thayer	Hospitality		gnthayer@cybermesa.com
Denise George	Newsletter/WEB	505-690-3534	denisegeorge@icloud.com
Open	Nominating		