

Hilltopics

Election Information



Oct. 8-18, 8am-5pm, Mon-Fri, Los Alamos Municipal Building

Oct. 19-Nov 2, 8am-6pm, Mon-Sat, Los Alamos Municipal Building

Oct. 19-Nov 2, 8am-6pm, Mon-Sat, White Rock Town Hall

Election Day, Tuesday, Nov 5, 7am-7pm

Voting locations: LA County Municipal Building, WR Town Hall, Golf Course, Betty Ehart Senior Center, UNM-LA.

Absentee voting: Last day to request a ballot is Oct. 22; forms at NMvote.org.

Same-day registration at all voting sites.

Sample ballots available at: https://www.losalamosnm.us/Government/Transparent-Los-Alamos-County/1ElectionInformation/Sample-Ballots

Candidate Forum, October 7, UNM-LA, 7 p.m. (6:30 p.m. for refreshments)

The branch is offering members rides to voting sites on election day. Please call or text Denise (505-690-3534) for White Rock rides or Nina Thayer (505-231-6312) for townsite rides to arrange a mutually convenient time.





October Branch Meeting and Out'n About

We are trying something new this fall, featuring outings of education mixed with fun. On Wednesday, October 9, we will visit Los Luceros. We will leave Los Alamos at 9:15 to arrive by 10:00. The entrance fee is \$7, but free to those over 60.

Sign up at the fall lunch or contact Denise George (505-690-3534, denisegeorge@icloud.com). Carpools will be arranged. Lunch at La Cosina in Espanola on the way home.

From their website: "For thousands of years people have touched this land, each adding to its story in their own way. Los Luceros is a place where the memories of those past have been preserved on the landscape, and its story is one unique to New Mexico. As Los Luceros enters a new era as an officially designated New Mexico Historic Site, we invite you to explore the deep and complex histories of this beautiful property.

The picturesque 148-acre ranch is located north of Alcalde on the east bank of the Río Grande. Upon arriving at the site visitors quickly realize why people have called the beautiful property home for more than six hundred years. The centerpiece of Los Luceros Historic Site is a magnificent Territorial-style Hacienda that houses centuries of history within its walls. The property also includes an 18th century Capilla (chapel), Victorian cottage, carriage house, guesthouse, farmyard, orchard and museum."



At a time still to be determined, we will visit a new show at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at UNM. "Nothing Left For Me: Federal Policy and the Photography of Milton Snow in Diné Bikéyah" looks at the brutal impact of the Navajo Livestock Reduction imposed upon Diné communities and homelands by U.S. Indian Commissioner John Collier starting in the 1930s. We will have a curator lead tour; more details will appear in the November newsletter.

At our fall lunch, **Kristen Henderson** presented an overview of the Legacy Cleanup at LANL (legacy means waste created before 1999). N3B is independent of LANL and is contracted directly from DOE. N3B has three responsibilities: water safety, soil contamination, and waste disposition.

Water safety consists of groundwater monitoring and remediation, storm water management and surface/storm water sampling and control. A primary concern in this area is a hexavalent chromium plume.

An example of soil contamination cleanup is DP road; this project is complete and was approved February 2024. Another continuing concern are numerous MDAs, Material Disposal Areas. NMED and the DOE are still debating whether these areas can be safely left in place and monitored or if billions of dollars should be spent to dig them up and move the material elsewhere; this would involve many trucks per day for many years and would fill much of WIPP.

Waste disposition involves moving transuranic waste (TRU) which is shipped to WIPP and low-level waste (LLW) which is shipped to commercial facilities.

Nonfiction Book Group

The next book is <u>The Wide Wide Sea</u> by Hampton Sides. Angela Coop will review on October 28, 7pm. Nina Thayer, at 1707 Solana, LA will host the meeting. Please let Nina know if you will attend (505-231-6312, gnthayer@cybermesa.com)

Book Group

October book is <u>The Heaven and Earth</u>
<u>Grocery Store</u> by James McBride. Rozelle Wright will review at both meetings.

The October 7th, 7pm meeting will be hosted by Karin Roberts at 415 Cheryl, WR. Please let Karin know if you will attend (505-709-8930, Karinroberts875@icloud.com).

The October 8th, 1pm meeting will be held at Sherril Hall of the Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church. Let Rozelle Wright know if you are coming (bandrwright@yahoo.com, 505-662-5490).

Great Decisions

This study group will resume next year in January. If you did not sign up at the fall luncheon, contact Denise George (denisegeorge@icloud.com or 505-690-3534) to join in a series of discussions on these Foreign Policy issues:

American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads
U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy
U.S.- China Relations
International Cooperation on Climate Change
The Future of NATO and European Security
AI and American National Security
India: Between China, the West, and the Global
South

After Gaza: America Policy in the Middle East

Calendar

October 7,8	Book Group		
October 7	Candidate Forum		
October 8	Early Voting Begins		
October 9	Los Luceros		
October 28	Nonfiction Book Group		

Coordinating Council 2024-2025

Judy Prono	Facilitator/Public Policy	505-662-2691	djprono@msn.com
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Appointed positions			
Karin Roberts	Hospitality	505-709-8930	karinroberts875@icloud.com
Helena Whyte	STEM	505-690-7824	mozden08@aol.com
Maryjane Giesler	University Representative	505-662-5574	mgiesler@unm.edu
Open	Nominating		

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