

In other news

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[Call for VAF applications, including information sessions March 5 and 11](#)

New Mexico companies are invited to submit proposals for the 2015 Venture Acceleration Fund (VAF) by March 20 and to attend information sessions beforehand. The first information session will take place on Thursday, March 5, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board location at 10A Cities of Gold Road in Pojoaque. The second information session is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Santa Fe Business Incubator at 3900 Paseo del Sol in Santa Fe.

The median award amount has averaged \$40,000. Northern New Mexico businesses located in the counties of Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, San Miguel, Santa Fe and Taos are given preference for the VAF, as are technology and manufacturing

firms that can demonstrate their ability to stimulate job growth and attract additional revenue to the region. Companies not selected for the VAF are often connected with other resources that can help them meet their goals.

Los Alamos National Security (LANS), LLC, the company that manages Los Alamos National Laboratory, launched the VAF in 2006. The current investor pool also includes Los Alamos County, Santa Fe County, the City of Santa Fe and the New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

“We are riding a wave of positive momentum from past years,” said Kurt Steinhaus, director of Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Community Programs Office. “This year will be our most competitive to date, and we are looking forward to this year’s proposals from New Mexico entrepreneurs.”

The VAF is administered through LANS’ Los Alamos Connect program within the Regional Development Corporation in Española. To access the VAF application and additional information, go to Los Alamos Connect’s Venture Acceleration Fund website.

Opportunity to own a Habitat for Humanity home in Los Alamos

Habitat for Humanity of Española Valley and Los Alamos (EVLA) is currently accepting applications for a new house to be built on Questa Street in Los Alamos. Upon completion of the house, the owner will hold an interest-free mortgage with Habitat of Humanity to repay the construction expenses, typically over a period of 30 years.

Applications can be downloaded from the [Habitat for Humanity EVLA](#) website or picked up in person from the Habitat for Humanity EVLA office at 726 North Riverside Drive in Española. For additional information, call (505) 747-2690.

Los Alamos National Laboratory is a supporter of Habitat for Humanity EVLA.

Luján and Fleischmann to lead House Nuclear Cleanup Caucus

United States Representatives Ben Ray Luján (D-NM) and Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN) will co-chair the House Nuclear Cleanup Caucus, which held its first meeting of the 114th Congress to discuss the importance of raising awareness about environmental energy issues.

“I look forward to working with Rep. Fleischmann, the rest of the caucus and stakeholders, including the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities,” said Representative Luján, whose New Mexico district includes Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Los Alamos National Laboratory

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