

The Luna Light



“The People’s College”
Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America

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Martinez learning, enjoying auto collision courses at LCC

Ernest Martinez is a donut shop owner during the day and a Luna Community College Auto Collision student in the evening.

Martinez, like many non-traditional students is an example that it is never too late to learn and therefore it never too late to go to college.

“For being viejito (an older person) I am learning a lot,” says Martinez who along with his wife Gloria are owners of Daylight Donuts. “I’m picking up the basics and learning a lot.”

Although Martinez has run a successful business for 33 years, he says that he should have tried out college a long time ago.

“I wish this program would have been round when I was in high school,” says Martinez. “Some people may not want to go the academic route and would rather work manually and auto collision is a perfect example of this.”



Ernest Martinez (right) is with LCC Auto Collision Instructor Gilbert “Guba” Martinez. Ernest Martinez is restoring a 1967 Camaro while taking nighttime courses at LCC.

LCC Auto Collision Instructor Gilbert “Guba” Martinez encouraged Ernest to take some classes early last

summer.

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LCC nursing school: An insider’s perspective—part 3

The following is a column written by Luna Community College nursing student Inez Bolivar. Bolivar would like to share her opinion with fellow students, staff, faculty and the community of the life of a nursing student. This is the third in a series.

My name is Inez Bolivar and I am currently a second-year nursing student at Luna Community College (LCC). Last year, I had enormously wonderful experiences during my time in the nursing program. I cared for a variety of patients who still resonate with me. A precipitous labor and delivery female patient and my first indwelling male catheter for an older male patient with congestive heart failure are amongst my most



Inez Bolivar

prized memories from nursing school thus far. I was able to provide care to patients at every stage of life, from birth to gravely-ill patients living their last months of life. Providing care and comfort to someone dying is unexplainably special and being present and supportive for a joyous event in a family’s life is my privilege. These moments have changed my life and my attitude toward those in the medical profession. I developed a desire to tell my amazing stories, while still maintaining privacy and dignity for the patients, to anyone who would listen. It is my pleasure to share my

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Martinez...



Ernest Martinez is pictured here displaying donuts and other goodies he made recently.

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“I had never taken auto collision classes before and I had a 1967 Camaro parked in my back yard for 30 years,” says Martinez. “My wife bought it new at Ed Black’s Chevrolet in Albuquerque. It had a lot of dents and needed a lot of work. You can see the progress we’ve made. It’s nice to be in a class where you can see progress.”

Martinez says that his goal is to have his car fully restored by May, 2013.

“I encourage other students to attend Luna Community College;

“Luna and Las Vegas has a lot of great potential. A lot of people don’t realize the work it takes to get it done. It’s easy to point at the faults; you’ll always have the critics. People should appreciate a school like Luna,”— Ernest Martinez.

there is a lot of teamwork here,” says Martinez.

Martinez was selling insurance before going into the donut and cake business.

“I go in early in the morning and make all the donuts and then I start with the cakes,” says Martinez. “My wife decorates the cakes, I just bake them. I compare it to auto collision, you get to see the finished product.”

With Luna Community College getting ready to receive \$4 million in G.O. Bond money to renovate its vocational facilities, Martinez says that will be great for many future students.

“How many of us get to say that we are working in a state-of-the-art facility?,” says Martinez. “I am looking forward to having great equipment and facilities to work with. Luna and Las Vegas has a lot of great potential. A lot of people don’t realize the work it takes to get it done. It’s easy to point at the faults; you’ll always have the critics. People should appreciate a school like Luna.”

Martinez says it’s never too late to learn.

“I knew there was a program like this here at Luna, but I didn’t know how good it was,” says Martinez. “We underestimate ourselves of what we can accomplish.”

Professional **Development Opportunity Spring 2013**

The Leadership Challenge

STGS236: Effective Leadership, Fridays, 4-5PM, Tech 102

This course defines leadership as the ability to get things done through people. The course will provide theoretical and practical skills necessary for leadership success in both personal and professional environments. In addition, students will develop an understanding of specific theories and models that make leadership successful.

Register online or at the Office of the Registrar
For additional information contact Dr. Vidal Martinez at
505-670-3305 or vmartinez@luna.edu

An insider's perspective...

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moments and interpretations regarding my educational experience and my clinicals while I am a LCC nursing student. (The stories and experiences of my classmates could perhaps be included.)

Week seven and eight

Reminiscing on my first year as a nursing student, I recalled a particular moment of insecurity; I wondered if I would ever be as good as my instructors. I recall saying to one of my instructors during a moment of pure honesty, "I wonder if I will ever be as good as you and my other instructors." She asked me to explain this lack of self-confidence with her. I went on to describe how I believed the nurse mentors to be highly professional and I was stunned with the amount of information they seemed to have in their long term memories. My instructor reassured me that she had faith in me and my potential and my ability to be excellent in my future endeavors. I smile, even as I type this very sentence, because as I reflect on last year and the first semester of my second year, I see the growth in myself. Somewhere between then and now, my confidence has increased and I am more comfortable assuming the role of student nurse during clinicals. The professionalism I see in those whom I foolishly compare myself to is molded by their years of experience. I still have doubts during my private moments or when a particularly challenging subject is presented in class; however my doubts have decreased or perhaps I deal with these feelings more gracefully. Does everyone deal with a similar insecurity?

During week seven and eight, I cared for a patient with unexplained syncope and another patient suffering with cirrhosis. I happily report that I took care of these patients with great ease and with increased patient rapport than ever before. I am slipping easily into my role as a registered nurse and I feel less overwhelmed when assuming my role as the patients (student) nurse.

Understanding that I as a person, do not know everything, is sometimes quieted during times of self-doubt; however, I should not begrudge myself for my infancy in the nursing field. When I compare any well-seasoned professional to a beginner, there is a magnitude of difference. How could there not be. In my reasoning, here lies my answer. My role models I strive to emulate are products of years of experience and higher education levels. Time and experience have shaped them and their patient involvements have made them excellent in my eyes. I must remember as the semester and my career progress, I will continue to improve and my skills will strengthen. I will, all being well, be as excellent as my mentors.

Week nine- CBS

My time at Community Based Services (CBS) was pleasant and a realization of the wonderful resources available in our community. Despite living in Las Vegas for my life's majority, I was unaware of the gargantuan effect New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute and CBS program has for some members of our community. CBS staff assist/teach the clients to better their life skills. Clients socialize with others who perhaps are in a similar situation and find comfort in a group therapy atmosphere. During my clinical, all the clients were very forthcoming and willing to disclose information for the student nurses learning purposes. I was particularly moved by a patient who disclosed a struggle to locate health care professionals she was comfortable with. The client was encouraged

by her adult child to relocate to Las Vegas because of the vast resources available in our community that address mental illness. Because of CBS, this patient's mental illness is currently well controlled and she now lives a purposeful life on her own terms. I suppose, because the New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute in Las Vegas, it encourages an open attitude and wide knowledge base regarding mental illness. Mental willingness to improve one's situation and meticulously following medical advice in the hopes of improved (mental) health, is for some, a miracle. The CBS program and the staff's support are all a part of the healing/miracle.

Week 10- UNM

I got my first taste of graveyard shift as a student nurse; it was tedious and disrupting to my circadian rhythm! I believe this experience to be a real and necessary glimpse into most nurses revolving schedules, as the majority of us will work graveyard shift at some point in our careers. As a future nurse, I must realistically address nursing career possibilities and I believe it would be unwise to expect banker's hours. Choosing to be a professional in a 24 hour manned field requires facing the fact that many of us will work what some call bizarre hours and will even require some of us to become nocturnal beings if nighttime shift atmosphere is to our liking. Some nurses will have the luxury of working eight to five with weekends off, but for most, twelve hour shifts, graveyard and overtime after a twelve hour shift until coverage can be attained, are real possibilities.

The time and travel it took to get to UNM Children's Hospital was well spent. This hospital was so conducive to learning and provided a youthful glimpse into nursing practice. I enjoyed visiting UNM Children's Hospital in Albuquerque, New Mexico to observe and learn how their nurses took on their nursing responsibilities.

Week 11

During nursing school, I consider television a controlled substance; however, between studying sessions I watched Dr. Brene Brown discussing "daring to be great" on Katie Couric's talk show. I was engulfed by her phrase as Dr. Brown described living wholeheartedly and courageously engaging in our own lives while embracing vulnerability and imperfection as "daring to be great". I remembered my aforementioned insecurities and considered my new found but completely coincidental enrichment to be an answer from the universe.

In adult nursing class we learned about shock. Shock is a syndrome characterized by decreased tissue perfusion and impaired cellular metabolism. This results in an imbalance between the supply and demand for oxygen and nutrients. It takes a nurse's alert discriminative eye to initially notice if the patient is going into shock by subtle cues. This requires vigilance at all times. Sure, my classmates and I have dared to be great, but I must be outstanding to recognize when someone is going into shock. Those first and sometimes subtle initial signs and symptoms, if recognized, and prompt treatment is begun, can be a life changing difference. The hours I spend studying shock have been motivated by a need for nursing brilliance when confronted with this condition. But as my family nursing instructor describes, an ill patient experiencing further complications, "something is wrong, and you will notice it!"; I pray that I do notice, as I prepare (study) for excellence and as I dare to be great.

Spring schedules being distributed throughout service area

The following are area businesses and other entities where spring schedules have been distributed (as of Dec. 7).

Springer	First National Bank	LV Workforce Connection	Allsup's
Post Office	Library	Abe Montoya Rec Center	Santa Fe Grill
Wells Fargo	Colfax Workforce Development Center	LV City Hall	Circle K
International Back	KMART	Franken Better Stop	Super 8
Springer Supermarket	Maxwell	Franken Tire Center	Sun & Sand Restaurant
Crossroads	Post Office	Auto Zone	Carquest
Handiway	Wagon Mound	O'Reilly's	Josephs Restaurant
City Hill	LJM Travel Center	El Valle	Laundromat
Public Library	Franken WM Service Station	Villanueva General Store	T&D Food Mart
Springer Electric Coop	Leroy's Grocery	Villanueva Post Office	Post Office
Springer Drug Store	Norma Jean Animal Care	Ribera Post Office	Library
Laundry Mat	Las Vegas	Pecos River Campground	Wells Fargo Bank
Cimarron	City Schools	San Jose Post Office	City Hall
Post Office	West LV Schools	Santa Rosa	Rectory
International Bank	SECU	Silver Moon Restaurant	County Office
Ben Franklin	Spic & Span	Motel 6	Napa Auto Parts
Laundry Mat	Community First Bank	Quality Inn	Community First Bank
Cree-Mee	Bank of the Southwest	Holiday Inn	Comet II Restaurant
St James Hotel and restaurant	Walmart	Best Western	Farmers Electric
Russell's Super Market	Daylight Donuts	Denny's	Bob's Phillip 66
Philmont	Traveler's Cafe	Hampton Inn	Everyone's Federal Credit Union
Raton	NMHU	First National Bank	Human Service Department
Post Office	Lowe's	Rt. 66 Auto Museum	Bozo's Garage
Wells Fargo Bank	Super Save	La Quinta Inn	
International Bank		Mc Donald's	
Bank of America			

Weekly activities

Monday, December 10, 2012

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. LCC Faculty Senate Meeting (Cafeteria)

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. DWI Class (General Studies Room 102B)

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Quality NM/ LCC Business Plan Meeting (Cafeteria)

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Quality NM/ LCC Business Plan Meeting (Cafeteria)

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. LCC Sexual Harassment Training (Nursing Lecture Hall)

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. LCC Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting (Student Services Room 102)

Thursday, December 13, 2012

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. HELP NM Christmas Potluck (Cafeteria)

Friday, December 14, 2012

5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Tierra y Montes SWCD Annual Meeting (Cafeteria)

Saturday, December 15, 2012

7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CNA Testing (Nursing Room N7&3)

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Early Childhood Professionals Workshop (Education Room 101)

**LCC will be closed from
Thursday, Dec. 20 through Wednesday, Jan. 2
for winter break**



Señor Chocolate talks to several hundred local students at Robertson High on Wednesday. A one-time gangster, he earned a master's degree from Harvard University.

Santana talks to local students at RHS Symposium

The following is a bio on Richard Santana (Señor Chocolate) who was a guest speaker in Wednesday's Robertson High School Student Empowerment Symposium. Luna Community College was one of the symposiums sponsors.

Señor Chocolate, a tough-talking Latino gangster, arrives on stage with trade-mark baggy pants, shades, trench coat and a red bandanna. Using a thick Spanish accent to make his point, he begins with accounts of his personal gang-life experiences to illustrate gang attitudes and behaviors. He challenges his audience to critically assess their own perceptions. He asks them to acknowledge the fact that violence and hopelessness will continue to affect our communities if apathy persists.

After sharing his gang-life experiences, Señor Chocolate presents The Change; an apt metaphor long to be remembered. While shedding his gang clothing, he explains The Change that occurred in his life – and can occur in anyone's life. Richard Santana emerges, dressed in a shirt and tie – as a college graduate, educator, counselor, colleague and friend.

A once tough-talking Latino gangster, now a college-educated, nationally recognized speaker, Richard Santana's journey provides a powerful and graphic illustration of cultural relevance in schools. His moving accounts of his gang-life experiences and how they shaped his beliefs, attitudes and self-expectations are inspiring, unsettling and thought-provoking. He challenges his audience to critically assess their own perceptions and helps them to recognize how these perceptions influence work relationships, effectiveness and productivity.

His message is one of making choices: between hope and hopelessness, between evaluating young people based upon our own standards or accepting them in the context of their own, between giving up on our most challenged youth or truly becoming their advocates.

Founder of Homeboy Goes To Harvard Productions, Richard shares his story as a third generation gang member who went on to earn a Master's degree from Harvard University. He demonstrates to students and educators how he accomplished the change that occurred in his life — the change that can occur in anyone's life.

**Spring registration is ongoing;
hard-copy schedules now available**

Online registration will be operational during LCC's Christmas break.

2012 LCC Luminaria Drive





Several Luna Community College dental assistant and cosmetology students are members of SkillsUSA and will be competing in the 2013 New Mexico competition in April are (l-r): Rachel Trujillo, Maria Chavez, Devinn Martinez, Leah Ortiz, Monica Garcia, Julie Silva, AmeRae Gold, Amanda Leora Martinez, Amanda Silva, Danielle Carpenter and instructor Germaine Sandoval.



Luna Community College cosmetology students Amanda Silva, Danielle Carpenter and Amanda Leora Martinez display knitted scarves and booties they made for New Mexico Behavioral Health clients. The second photo depicts the presents wrapped and ready to be delivered. Not pictured are Frances Martinez, Sabrina Sena, Kimberly Gonzales, Krystal Marquez, and Melecia Vigil.

Sexual Harassment Training

December 12, 2012

1:00pm

Allied Health Auditorium

**This is a mandatory training for
ALL Staff and Faculty. Please
plan on attending.**



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LCC Business and Professional Studies faculty member Eric Spencer named state director

NASDCTEc is pleased to welcome Mr. Eric Spencer, new State Director of New Mexico.

Mr. Spencer was named director of the New Mexico Public Education Department's (PED) College and Career Readiness Bureau in October 2012. Prior to assuming his new role, he served the PED for 12 ½ years in multiple roles to include Staff Manger for Career-Technical and Workforce Education, and most recently as the Budget Director for the Administrative Services Division.

Mr. Spencer began his career in education as a business teacher where he worked in one of New Mexico's smaller high schools and in one of the largest high schools. His district level experience includes teaching at the elementary, middle and high school levels, working as an assistant to a principal at an elementary school, and as an assistant to a district superintendent. For the last 6 years, he has served as adjunct faculty member in the School of Business and Professional Studies at Luna Community College where he teaches accounting, finance and economics.

His bachelor's and master's degrees in Business Administration, and all the coursework required for his teaching and administrative licenses, were earned at New Mexico Highlands University. After completing these credentials he studied insurance and risk management at California State University – San Francisco. He continues to be a lifelong learner as he is currently studying architectural design and art at the Santa Fe Community College.

As a recipient of numerous educational awards, he has been recognized at the state and national levels for his many contributions to the education system. When asked for a goal he said "Nothing is more important to me than to ensure we provide the opportunity for all New Mexico students to engage in a meaningful and purposeful education to achieve their college and employment goals, and to support all those in the system that make it happen."

Please extend a warm welcome to Eric Spencer, who can be reached at eric.spencer@state.nm.us.



Eric Spencer



**“CHANGING LIVES...
BUILDING COMMUNITIES”**

FOR ALL OF US THERE IS
LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GET A QUALITY
EDUCATION TODAY!



**REGISTRATION FOR 2013 SPRING
CLASSES BEGINS ON NOV. 15**

Print and view our schedule of classes online at www.luna.edu
Call for information at 505.454.2500 or 1-800.588.7232

REGISTER EARLY!! THE EARLY BIRD GETS THE CLASSES!

Knowledge impacts the quality of our existence

By Dr. Pete Campos

Knowledge comes in many forms and impacts who we become. While we absorb information from our five senses, it is our intellect and intuitive knowledge that helps us better understand the world we encounter. For example: We often ask ourselves; am I doing the right thing and am I on the right road? While we may be unsure of the decisions we make and the direction we take - the more knowledge we gather through our senses, academics and experiences that give us our gut feeling - the more confident we become to make good decisions and take the right path. Mortimer Adler, American educator, stated, "The purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as we continue to live."

That's why it is important to trust our senses and gain as much knowledge and experience as possible. When we do, the quality of our lives rises to new heights of self-satisfaction. Developing these three facets of our knowledge base improves the quality of our existence. We become more inquisitive, motivated to comprehend and led by sound decision making to move forward in a well-grounded way. Alvin Toffler, American futurist, said, "The illiterate of this century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn."

That is why we have strengthened our foundation and are preparing

to: enter our next higher education accreditation cycle, meet the standards of our new state higher education funding formula and immerse ourselves in the Quality New Mexico college improve process. We are far from perfect but continue to build upon our strengths and apply

our growing knowledge to improve upon the opportunities that will make us better at providing more effective employee value-fulfillment contributions to improve student services. Aristotle, Greek philosopher, said, "What we have to learn to do, we learn by doing."

We're incorporating physical, mental and social well-being to stimulate and guide the evolution of our college. We

want to be flexible, positive and engaging in our growth as a learning community. Albert Einstein, humanist, once stated, "Never regard study as a duty but as an enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later works belong."

As we undertake upcoming opportunities to make Luna Community College a better place to learn and work, let's not lose focus of what it really takes to enjoy lifelong learning! It takes wholehearted commitment to believe in ourselves, what we can accomplish and how we can share that knowledge with others. In other words, let's pass along what we know!

"While we may be unsure of the decisions we make and the direction we take - the more knowledge we gather through our senses, academics and experiences that give us our gut feeling - the more confident we become to make good decisions and take the right path,"—Dr. Pete Campos.

Anyone interested in sending a column, article, photo or information that they would like to see included in The Luna Light, please e-mail jgallegos@luna.edu or call him at 505/454-2510.

Luna Community College student-athletes Eric Santiago and Marcos Velez work out at the Gerald Ortega Wellness Center recently. For more information on the Wellness Center, please call 505/425-8767.



LCC:
"The People's College"