

The Luna Light

"The People's College"

Mission Statement: "Creating Opportunities for You!"

Vision Statement: "New Mexico's Premier Community College: Preparing Students for Success"

Visit us at
www.luna.edu
1-800-588-7232

Volume 6 Issue 21

May 24-June 9, 2013

Danica Gonzales graduates from Santa Rosa High and Luna Community College

By Albert Campos
LCC Santa Rosa
Satellite Director

Danica Camille Gonzales' educational journey started at the age of 12 during an I.E.P meeting that I attended to see how Luna Community College could be a part of helping Danica accomplish her goals. Her vision/goal was to receive an associates degree at the same time as her high school diploma.

Through her hard work and perseverance she accomplished both along with being the salutatorian of the Santa Rosa High School graduating class of 2013. As printed in the **Albuquerque Journal** on May 11, Gov. Susana Martinez said she wants to see more students graduate from high school and be well prepared for college or the workforce.

Gov. Martinez also said students need more opportunities and choices for their education. The story goes on to say that the goal in dual credit concurrent enrollment is for stu-



Danica Gonzales and U.S. Congressman Ben Ray Lujan at LCC's Graduation on May 11.

dents to graduate with both high school diplomas and associates degrees.

Santa Rosa High school and Luna Community have that partnership and capability to offer both a diploma and an associates degree. Danica is proof that the system works. She will be entering a four-year institution of higher learning as a junior which gives her a tremendous head start in completing her education at an early age. Congratulations Danica from Luna Community College—Santa Rosa campus. We were able to watch you grow from a young 12 year old motivated eighth grade student with a goal, to a young adult graduate with both your high school diploma and an associate's

degree in liberal arts from Luna Community College, and all done in a rural community called Santa Rosa. Congratulations Danica.

Note: Please see page 10 for more on Gonzales.

Luna Community College nursing students Dimitry Chavez, Tanya Romero, Shyann Vigil, April Valdez and Stacy Romero took part in the SimLab Open House on Tuesday. The state-of-the-art equipment, which was purchased through a Title V grant, will be used by students beginning in the fall semester. For more on the SimLab Open House, see page 8.



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Luna
Community
College

Exercise & Wellness

Step, Kick, Punch & Jam!

June 3 - July 26, 2013 (M-T-W)

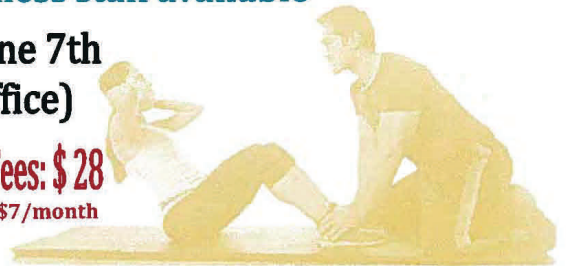
12:00p -- 1:10p

- Cardiovascular machines
- Cardio-conditioning equipment
- Free weights
- Boxing equipment
- Exercise balls
- Toning & abdominal equipment
- Wellness staff available



Last day to enroll, June 7th
(LCC Registrar's Office)

Regular Fees: \$ 41 -- Senior Fees: \$ 28
Approx. \$10/month Approx. \$7/month



Wellness Center 505-425-8767

Registrar's Office 505-454-5314

APPROVED
4/9/13

Weekly Calendar

Monday, May 27, 2013

No Events Scheduled-Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Piyo Fitness & Dance Class (VoAg)

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Hip Hop Aerobics (VoAg)

Thursday, May 30, 2013

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Piyo Fitness & Dance Class (VoAg)

The next *Luna Light* will be published on Monday, June 10. The college will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.



Las Vegas City Police Commander Ken Jenkins provides "preparing for the active shooter" training to Luna Community College employees recently.

Las Vegas City Police provide training seminar for Luna Community College staff and faculty

The City of Las Vegas Police Department recently presented a "preparing for the active shooter", training to Luna Community College employees. The training provided information on what employees should do if an active shooter were ever to be a threat.

"Run, Hide, Fight", are the three options one should consider when placed in a situation involving an active shooter. If you are presented with the opportunity, "RUN" get away, if you come across others that may be in harms way take them with you. If you're not able to escape, "HIDE", find a place where you can stay quiet, lock or barricade doors with anything that's available. Push copy machine, shelves, anything that could deter someone from opening an obstructed door.

As the last resort, "FIGHT", do whatever you have to do to fight off the "bad guy", this is the time you need to set aside your nice, friendly personality and protect yourself.

We look forward to bringing back the Las Vegas Police department to present this training again, and working with other law enforcement agencies such as, New Mexico State Police and San Miguel Sheriffs department to work on drills and working up to a full scale exercise.

A special thank you to City Police Chief Christian Montano, instructors; Deputy Chief Eugene Garcia, Commander Ken Jenkins, Commander Juan Montano, and Commander Robert Gutierrez .

Attention students:

Luna Community College registration for the summer and fall semester is on-going.

You may look at the schedule online at www.luna.edu.

Hard-copy schedules for the summer semester are now available.

Please see the LCC Office of Admissions for schedules.

Changes coming in 2014 for GED testing

The Official GED Test will be changing in 2014; it will be more academically rigorous, on line, and more costly. The new test beginning in January 2014 will be aligned to Common Core ELA and math standards. The new test will have significant content changes. The revised test which covers the subject areas of writing, reading, science, social studies, and math will be more rigorous in general and will require a student to have a higher level of math proficiency. So, we are encouraging people to sign up for the test now, because it is certainly going to be a challenge in 2014.

Also, a non-profit group who administered the Official GED Test has now merged with a for profit group (Pearson VUE). Pearson VUE now owns the "GED" trademark and has the power to raise the testing fees. A bill was introduced at the legislature this year to change the wording or replace the language from GED, "General Equivalency Diploma" to "High School Equivalency Diploma." This change would have provided options or less expensive alternatives for students to

achieve their high school diploma. This bill was pocket vetoed but will be reintroduced next year in hopes of it being signed and adopted.

Because of the changes taking place, the test at NMHU will be \$150 in 2014 as opposed to the \$65 the students are now paying. This higher cost will hurt our low-income students who it's supposed to be helping. This new revamped test will

also affect the testing centers. The costly changes to computers and materials may not make it cost effective to keep many of the testing centers open. These changes also have an adverse affect to our program and programs around the state; our programs will have to purchase new assessments and new materials.

So, because of the impending changes, we again are encouraging anyone who does not have their high school diploma to go and take the test now, for it will definitely be more difficult, more costly, and possibly more of a struggle in 2014.

So, because of the impending changes, we again are encouraging anyone who does not have their high school diploma to go and take the test now, for it will definitely be more difficult, more costly, and possibly more of a struggle in 2014.



LCC students Ashley Lovato and Rachel Ridgeway pin a commit to complete tag on SMET instructor Dan Gonzales (far left) and Business and Professional Studies instructor Elaine Ortega (far right).

Luna CC to host car show; event to raise money for student scholarships

Luna Community College will be having its 9th Annual Car Show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 15 at the college. Set up time is from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

A \$20 entry fee is required per vehicle. Entries will be received until the day of the event. The first 100 paid entries will receive a commemorative t-shirt and a plaque. All entries will qualify for door prize drawings. Entries will be received until the day of the event.

Money raised will go into the Automotive Technology Scholarship Fund. The intention is to give one or two \$500 scholarships to a student or students that are interested in declaring collision repair or automotive technology as their major.

There will also be music, activities for children and food vendors at

the family event.

“It will be a great, fun family event,” said LCC Collision Repair

Instructor Anthony Baca. “People need to come out and see the automotive talent of the car people in this community. People will be amazed with the abilities and talent. It will be showcased at this car show. This event has become a staple of the automotive community. There are a lot of people that look forward to it.

The goal is to have over 100 entries.

The 9th Annual LCC Car Show is sponsored by the LCC Student Activities Office, LCC Foundation and LCC SkillsUSA.

For more information on the 8th LCC Car Show call Anthony Baca at 454-2591 or 429-0425 or Gene Sandoval at 454-2590.

“People need to come out and see the automotive talent of the car people in this community. People will be amazed with the abilities and talent,”—Anthony Baca.

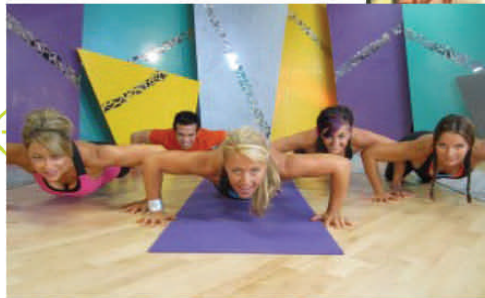


The 9th Annual LCC Car Show expects to feature 100 entries this year.



Incorporating dynamic
balance, dance condition,
plyo-metrics, strength, &
functional training while
emphasizing the athleticism
of Pilates and yoga!

All levels welcome!!!
\$35/ 8 week session.
Tuesdays and Thursdays
5:30—6:30
VoAg Building,
Luna Community College



With: Erin Lopez
PiYo Instructor

For more info: 716-934-8880

Healthcare Career Pathways a success

Healthcare Career Pathways held a program success reception on Friday, May 17 at the Raton High School Media Center. Students were recognized for their completion of the two-year program and all partners were recognized and presented with plaques and/or certificates.

Luna Community College partnered with the Raton Public Schools, Miners' Colfax Medical Center, and New Mexico Highlands University in 2010 to work on this two-year healthcare program initiative. The pathway program provided high school juniors and seniors with hands on experience. The initiative was designed for students to have a seamless transition from high school into a higher education institution with completion of many core courses, which are required within healthcare degree programs in college.

A major component of the pathways was to instruct students on how to deliver quality healthcare and the importance of performance improvement functions in all aspects of healthcare. The program had an emphasis on customer service skills and the delivery of quality healthcare.

A structured curriculum consisted of both instructional and practical skills, which has prepared them to continue their educational efforts in the healthcare field. Students that completed this healthcare pathway program now have the skills and abilities to test to become a certified nursing assistant and will either become employed in the healthcare area or continue to move forward in their studies of healthcare professions such



Pictured (l-r): Louise Portillos, LCC-Springer director, Betty Bowers, Miner's Colfax Long Term Care, Rocky Ramirez, student participant Raina Morphew, student participant, Dave Wilden, Raton Public Schools superintendent, Helen Segura, student participant Nancy Passikoff, CNA instructor Kayana Gomez, student participant Rosalie Martinez, program preceptor Maria Gallegos, student participant Marisa McCarty, student participant, JoAnne Johnson, Raton High School Principal.



as Licensed Practical Nursing program, Registered Nurse program or other allied healthcare positions. The goal of the initiative was to recruit and retain individuals in the healthcare field in Colfax County. The six primary communities in Colfax County all have healthcare professional shortages. Raton, which is the largest of the six communities, has a community hospital, Long Term Care facility, family practice associates, internal medicine, ob/gyn and general surgery services available.

Luna Community College delivered the online curriculum. Miners' Colfax Medical Center providing the clinical aspect of the two-year program where students received hands on experience. This allowed students to work side by side with a mentoring healthcare team. This is the second group that has completed the two-year program. It started with 10 students and ended with six. We are very proud of these students!

Louise Portillos, Luna Community College-Springer Satellite director receives a plaque from Rosalie Martinez, program preceptor.

LCC nursing students to utilize state-of-the-art simulation lab

Luna Community College nursing students are well respected for the rigorous education they earn. On Tuesday, the program got even stronger as it unveiled the new state-of-the-art simulation lab. The simulation lab was part of a Title V grant.

“It’s an exciting day for us to showcase the state-of-the-art simulation lab—first of its kind with students in mind here in northern New Mexico where a new era of medical learning will be addressed with simulators,” said LCC Title V Director Lorraine Martinez.

“Our students will now have the opportunity to work with and simulate equipment situations and patient care that they do not sometimes experience during clinical rotations,” said LCC Health Sciences Director Susan Grohman.

Simulation labs are an accepted educational practice that has been used in both rural and urban community college settings. For example, birthing mom (one of the mannequins), and new B baby, Sim Jr. (also a mannequin) all can be programmed to simulate different diagnosis from coughing where the student has to do a head-to-toe assessment or having them perform CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). As the students come into the room, they will have a general idea of their ‘patient’s’ history but they will be required to respond to any changes to their conditions as well as administer medication or IV therapy. In addition, each scenario can be changed or programmed into the mannequin depending on the nursing class and the experience that the instructor wants those students to obtain.

“I can’t stress enough how important this day is,” said Dr. Edward Gomez, the keynote speaker at the open house. Gomez is one of the top vascular surgeons in the nation. “This is a remarkable facility. To-

day, simulation is everything.”

Great emphasis is placed on all nursing students providing quality

nursing care and the use of simulations is the wave of the future. Due to the college’s location, many nursing students have to travel between 110 to 250 miles to reach qualified clinical sites. Simulations come in to play as a way to limit their time on the road going and coming back from clinical sites and offer a way to increase their knowledge of more complex medical diagnosis.

“It’s important that our students graduate with great skills and give back to our community,” said Gov. Susana Martinez. “It’s fabulous to know there is a community college that is providing these type of courses.”

The advanced simulator mannequins cost from \$31,292 to \$45,410. The Title V Simulation Lab including mannequins,

equipment and furniture has an estimated cost of \$300,000.

“I am very proud of what has been accomplished by our nursing program,” said LCC Board Chairman Abelino Montoya Jr. “It’s one of the best programs in the state. This is not without the hard work of our faculty, staff and students.”

The use of traditional clinical time with simulation alone or a combination of simulation and clinical time has proven to significantly increase self-confidence.

“This is a monumental occasion,” said LCC President Dr. Pete Campos. “This is a landmark that we will always treasure and remember.”

Luna Community College nursing students will be able to start using the simulation lab in August.



Luna Community College Board Chair Abelino Montoya Jr. along with Gov. Susana Martinez (brown dress) lead the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday. Also pictured (l-r) are: LCC President Dr. Pete Campos, Samuel Roybal, Dr. Edward Gomez, Montoya Jr., Las Vegas Mayor Alfonso Ortiz Jr., Gov. Martinez and LCC Title V Director Lorraine Martinez.

ATTENTION

INCOMING HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND
SENIORS NOT SURE WHAT TO DO THIS
SUMMER?

HOW ABOUT TAKING PART IN THE SUMMER
STUDENT ADVANCEMENT ACADEMIC
INSTITUTE (SAAI) AND EARNING
COLLEGE CREDIT?



PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE:

- Tuition Waiver (homeschooled/private school students not eligible for tuition waiver)
- Textbook Waiver
- Distance Learning Fee Waiver
- Access Code Waiver
- \$100 Stipend (at end of summer session with acceptable passing grade)
- College Credit
- High School Credit (as approved by participants high school)

SPACE IS LIMITED

IF INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT:

LCC ACCESS CENTER 505.454.2500 ext 1014

REGISTRATION BEGINS: APRIL 2, 2013



9th Annual Car Show

Saturday, June 15, 2013
10a.m. to 3 p.m



Luna Community College
366 Luna Dr.
Las Vegas, NM 87701

There will be music and prizes!

For entry information, contact:

Anthony Baca
@505-454-2591

or

505-429-0425
Gene Sandoval
@505-454-2590

For vendor booth availability, contact
Anthony Baca

Setup time 8:00 am-10:00 am

\$20.00 per entry

Frist 100 paid entries receive a commemorative t-shirt.

Open to all makes, models, and years of cars trucks, motorcycles, and bicycles.

Proceeds to benefit the Auto Technologies Scholarship Fund

APPROVED
[Signature]

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Danica Gonzales plans on attending UNM and study pre-med

The following was written by Danica Gonzales.

My name is Danica Camille Gonzales and I am 17 years old. I am the third daughter of Glenn and Gilda Gonzales. I have three other sisters. I am a senior at Santa Rosa High School. On May 17, I graduated from high school with my diploma as well as from Luna Community College with my associates degree in liberal arts.

You are probably wondering how this is possible. My college experience began in the summer before my eighth grade year. I was 12 years old when my mom asked me if I would like to begin college classes. I quickly agreed and took the placement exams as soon as I could. The idea was if I took at least six hours a semester, I would finish with my degree by the time I graduate high school.

I was quickly enrolled in the fall of 2008; I started with just three hours to get a feel for the college curriculum. After finishing my day at junior high, I would go to practice, then to my New Mexico history class at the Luna site here in Santa Rosa. By the time I would arrive home, it was already 8 p.m. I would shower first, eat dinner, and try to get some studying done. At first, it was cool being the only person in my class taking college courses. It was soon thereafter that I realized I needed to mature.

After earning an A in New Mexico History, my adviser thought it would be a good idea to try online classes. They still had a set time for me to attend class, but at least I would be at home. It was nice because at least



Danica Gonzales and LCC President Dr. Pete Campos.

I would be able to squeeze in a shower before

class and eat dinner during the lecture. After this semester, most of my classes would be taken online.

Another A in psychology and I was proving to my administrators that I was a serious student. As another end of the summer rolled by, I was going to be beginning my freshman year. Unfortunately there was a policy put into place, no one under the age of 16 would be able to take college courses.

My mom and I were devastated. I had worked so hard towards making my goal a reality, and it would just be taken away from me because of some silly policy. So my mom decided to fight for me; I was grandfathered into the system since I had great grades and had already proven my ability to handle the curriculum.

After that, I hit my goal even harder, taking more than one college course a semester. I was determined to show everyone that I could do it. And here I am, four years later with that goal in my hands. It was a long time coming, but it wasn't until recently that I realized just how fast time flies by. It wasn't easy, staying up all night studying, working a part time job, and not having a social life, but it was all worth it.

I'd also like to add that I am the mother of a beautiful baby boy. Yep, that's right, I did it all, and so can you.

After graduation, I plan on attending the University of New Mexico to study pre-med. As I finish my Bachelors Degree I hope to continue on to medical school and specialize in obstetrics.

Luna Community College "The People's College"



Scott Schlosser, a Luna Community College welding student, earned his American Welders Society National Certification. Schlosser now has an entry level welding licensure. He also earned an Occupation Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 30 Card. Schlosser has a job prospect with Western Oil in southern New Mexico. Pictured with him is LCC Vocational Director Gary Martinez.

Wonderful moments

By Dr. Pete Campos
LCC President

Our students come from all walks of life and share so many talents with their families, instructors, fellow students and the community at-large. Our students have cleared record high-jump levels, jumped over numerous hurdles and completed the 100 yard dash in record times. You may think to yourselves; how can students attending a reputable nationally accredited and high quality two-year educational institution compete when the college does not have a track team? The response is simple, we may not have a track team but our students are smart, self-motivated, innovative, creative and most importantly, filled with the love, fortitude, devotion and extra-effort to successfully make it past the finish line.

Luna Community College has withstood the pressures of lowering the bar! Now, more than ever, expectations by students and residents of our service area are higher. Family, friends and the business community want our youth and adult learners to earn the best education possible. The world is changing and we need to change with it! H. Stanley Judd said, "Don't be afraid to fail. Don't waste energy trying to cover up failure. Learn from your failures and go on to the next challenge. It's OK. If you're not failing, you're not growing." LCC is committed to developing students so they will succeed!

Here are some wonderful moments! Our students graduated in record numbers and in short periods of time. Our graduates now have the credentials to seek and find jobs that will land them good paying jobs that will provide for their individual and family needs. Christopher Morley said, "There is only one success – to be able to spend your life in your own way."

Our students, their families and taxpayers have paid for a quality education and they are going to get it! Some recent examples: A) Danica Camille Gonzales of Santa Rosa received her associates degree and high school diploma within a week of each other because she had faith in herself – despite the odds - to work towards a career in medicine; B) a student failed her nursing requirements by very little but she has not given up and will continue to seek a degree and career in nursing (we wholeheartedly support her and remain confident she will value her education even more over time because we want her to succeed and her success will be celebrated by the quality health care she will provide her patients; and, C) more students than ever before in Santa Rosa have listed Luna Community College as their No. 1 choice for enrolling in and earning their education.

We know that our educational system inspires students, is fully accredited and is second-to-none! We are a strong, solid and no-nonsense two-year college that will prepare our students to meet their educational needs head-on. I believe the right team is in place so that those seeking licensure, certification or a degree in criminal justice, culinary arts, SMET, nursing, dental assisting, auto collision, welding, carpentry, business and the list goes on - *will not falter*.

We have and will continue to center our focus on the success of students. As a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) we have earned the right and privilege to provide a top-notch education so our students can compete anywhere. Let us not lose faith in each other and the process we have worked hard to develop. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. Nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles." *Luna Community College is in a class all by itself.*

LCC:
**"The People's
College"**