

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 42

November 11-November 17, 2013

Luna CC ready to open Veterans Resource Center

The following is an interview with Luna Community College's Veterans Resource Center Coordinator Melissa Lopez. LCC will have its Grand Opening from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 11 at the LCC Boardroom.

What is the Veterans Resource Center?

The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) at Luna Community College is an area where veterans and their dependents may seek information regarding their educational opportunities while being provided with resources and support that will assist them in their transition into college life.

What are some of the immediate goals of the center?

Some of the immediate goals of the center are to: Establish LCC as a designated worksite for eligible veterans and their dependents. This will enable eligible veterans and/or their dependents to work in the resource center while earning an hourly wage. In addition, we would like to provide services that will encourage more veterans and/or their dependents to take advantage of all educational opportunities.

Who will be working at the center?

LCC will operate with collaboration from UNM-Taos VUB in order to facilitate staffing for the center. Many work studies and dependents alike can also become employed as VA work studies.

What will be the hours and days of operation?

Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How will this resource center help veterans?



LCC Board of Trustees Chairman Abelino Montoya presents a certificate of appreciation to Veterans Employment and Disabled Veterans Representative Edward Mendez.

The resource center will assist veterans by providing additional resources and support to enhance their ability to succeed in college such as, academic and career advisement, peer to peer mentoring, group counseling, and the opportunity to attend a variety of workshops.

Continued on page 2

Attention students:

LCC registration for the spring semester begins on Friday, Nov. 15.

You may view the schedule online at www.luna.edu. You may also pick up a hard-copy schedule on campus or in several businesses across the LCC service area by Friday.

LCC SkillsUSA Clubs to honor veterans

Luna Community College SkillsUSA Clubs will be having a veterans appreciation day from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14 at the Media Education Center. Sandwiches and refreshments will be served.

"We want to show our appreciation for all veterans," said LCC SkillsUSA Automotive Technology Vice-President Chris Castellano. "This is just a small token of our appreciation."

Castellano, a disabled veteran, served in both Desert Storm and Iraq.

"I would like to thank our advisors Anthony Baca and Clarice Bonney for supporting this idea," said Castellano.

All veterans as well as Luna Community College students and staff are invited.

Veterans Resource Center..

Continued from page 1

Who is eligible to utilize these resources?

Resources are available to prospective, current and past student veterans and their dependents.

What are some of the long-term goals of the resource center?

Luna Community College has been a supporter of veterans in the community wishing to better themselves through self-development whether it be through education or employment. This resource center will show our continuous effort and reflect are values that “we serve those who have served.” With that being said, through this effort, LCC would like to see a continual increase in completion rates of our veteran students.

How is this funded?

At this time, the resource center is being funded through the collaboration with UNM-Taos VUB Program and with the funds that were awarded by the legislature for implementation of retention and completion efforts.

Is LCC receiving outside help to run this center?

Yes, LCC is receiving assistance from the staff from UNM-Taos VUB Program, Edward Mendez Veterans Employment Specialist (NMWFC) and from local veteran volunteers.

Any final comments?

I would like to thank all internal and external entities in advance for their assistance and support as we continue

“I would like to thank all internal and external entities in advance for their assistance and support as we continue to move forward with LCC’s commitment to assist veterans and their dependents,”—Melissa Lopez

to move forward with LCC’s commitment to assist veterans and their dependents.



Luna Community College administration and evaluation of sports instructor Art Abreu took several of his students to a board of trustees meeting, recently. Abreu wanted to show his students how a process of a meeting operates. Pictured in front of Abreu are students E.J. Stanton, Cody Brown and John Montaño.

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www.facebook.com/LunaCommunityCollege

A poem dedicated to a veteran

He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion,
Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in
And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies;
They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors
His tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened quietly
For they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,
For ol' Joe has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Veteran died today.

He won't be mourned by many,
Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing,
"Tho a Veteran died today.

When politicians leave this earth,
Their bodies lie in state,

While thousands note their passing,
And proclaim that they were great.
Papers tell of their life stories
From the time that they were young,
But the passing of a Veteran
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Some jerk who breaks his promise
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow
Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country
And offers up his life?

The politician's stipend
And the style in which he lives,
Are often disproportionate,
To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Veteran,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small.

It is not the politicians
With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,
With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out,
With his ever-waffling stand?

Or would you want a Veteran
His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Veteran,
Who would fight until the end.

He was just a common Veteran,
And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us
We may need his likes again.

For when countries are in conflict,
We find the Veteran's part,
Is to clean up all the troubles
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor
While he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline
In the paper that might say:
"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
A VETERAN DIED TODAY."

*This poem was submitted by LCC Board Member
David Gutierrez, however, the author is unknown.*

Position Announcements

**LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANT JOB POSITIONS:**

- Instructor-Medical Surgical Nursing (closes 1-31-14 or until filled)
- Instructor-Family Nursing (closes 1-31-14 or until filled)
- Allied Health Director (closes 1-31-14 or until filled)

- Office Manager (Springer Satellite) (Closes 11-15-13)

FOR JOB DESCRIPTION(S) AND/OR CLOSING DATES, CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AT (505) 454-2503 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.LUNA.EDU

LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. ALL POSITION POSTING FOLLOW THE LCC AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN.

Luna Community College: "The People's College"

Rake Up these classes before they are full

Spring 2014 Early Registration
November 15th — January 10th



Nursing

Public Speaking

Teacher Education

Culinary

Auto Collision

Computer Fundamentals

Freshmen Comp I & II

Spanish

Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II

Intermediate Algebra

Accounting

History of New Mexico

Introduction to Sociology

Automotive Technology

Introduction to Psychology

College Algebra

Fire Science

Biology

Cosmetology

Welding

Introduction to Algebra

Dental

Criminal Justice

Don't be left waiting
Register Now

Weekly calendar

Monday, November 11, 2013

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. VA Resource Center Open House (Student Services 102)

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

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

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Piyo Fitness (Business 115)

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. LAT Meeting (Student Service 102)

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

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. PTK Prospective Member Orientation (General Studies 104)

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. United Blood Services Blood Drive (IPC Cafeteria)

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. NMHSD Child Support Training (LRC Lecture Hall)

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

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Piyo Fitness (Business 115)

Thursday, November 14, 2013

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDD Assessments (Student Services 102)

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. SkillsUSA Veteran Appreciation Lunch (MEC Atrium)

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. VA Group Counseling (LRC 104)

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

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack Meeting (IPC Dining Hall)

Saturday, November 16, 2013

7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CNA Testing (Allied Health NO-7 & MO-11)

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Early Childhood Training (Education 114)

Luna Community College YouthBuild students were officially presented their Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 certification cards recently. These students (and numerous other program participants not pictured) successfully completed their OSHA training under the tutelage of LCC Vocational Education Instructor Joseph Montoya. Montoya is a National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) certified master instructor and OSHA trainer. Pictured (bottom row, l-r) are: Tracy Lucero, Nicole Maes, and Hanna Brunner. (top row, l-r): YouthBuild Case Manager/Transition Coordinator Roderick Luján; Robert Madrid (holding daughter Heavenly), Johnathan Vigil, Raenelle García, Javis Sánchez, Fermin Vallejos, Thomas DeHerrera, Shyka Luján, and YouthBuild Vocational Education Instructor Louie Plagge.



LCC Dual Credit/ Concurrent Enrollment Coordinator Arcenio Garcia speaks to Accelerate students about discovering their own personality, interest and skills through career interest inventory assessments. Pictured clockwise are: David Donahue, Chris Montoya, Chris Rodriguez, Diane Moore (Accelerate Career Advisor), Preston Parson, Angelica Vargas, and Julian Torres.

Tip of the week:
Always have hope

Valley Middle School's Vigil serving as NMBPA VP of Communication

It is that time of the year for students to start preparing for the 2014 State Business Professionals of America Conference to be held in February of 2014 in Albuquerque. On Sept. 7-8, 2013, the state BPA officers met to discuss "Back to School Activities." We are well represented in the north as we have Mr. Caleb Vigil, son of Melissa Vigil, serving as the NMBPA Vice-President of Communication. Caleb is a 7th grader at West Las Vegas Valley Middle School.

In a statement made by Caleb, he said, "I want to thank Mr. Gene Parson, Mrs. Cathy Lucero, Ms. Crystal Rougemont, and the WLVB Board of Education for supporting the BPA Groups in our district. I would also like to thank every single friend, individual, business, and my amazing family for supporting the local chapters of the BPA groups here in our community. Most importantly, I want to thank Mr. Mike Melton from Southwest Capital Bank for being a role model and always taking the time to meet with me. Because of your donations and generosity, I felt confident enough to not only run to be a NMBPA Officer, but I, along with the other members of the WLVB Valley BPA, worked hard to show our thanks and appreciation by placing at state and nationals.

Our Chapter was the only middle school in New Mexico to have a 3rd place national winner, and I want to congratulate Kenneth Marrujo again on that accomplishment. We ask for your continued support of our program, and thank you so much for helping us accomplish our dreams. I need to thank my Godparents Rick and Berta, and my uncle and aunt Robert and Viola for helping me with my campaign and the numerous speeches I've given and prepare for!

Big thanks to my Grandpa and Grandma Vigil and my uncle Jim, aunt Suzanne, uncle Brian, Jay, and my mom for being at every fundraiser! I have to give one last shout out to Mercy Lopez for being the best auntie in the world! Thank you for always believing in me, and being there for me!"

As part of his responsibilities, Mr. Vigil will assist BPA chapters across the state to raise money for the BPA "Links of Love" Community Service Project. All monies raised will be made to the N.M. Special Olympics. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Caleb at rexrunner21@gmail.com.

Please see below for BPA initiative.

BPA raising money for Special Olympics

Good morning everyone. I hope this email finds you ready to challenge yourselves and other chapters. Today, Nov.1, 2013 is the kick off date for the "Links of Love" donation drive. "Links of Love" is a BPA initiative to raise money for the Special Olympics. For every .25 cents your chapter raises, you will receive a "link." The chapter with the longest Chain of links at the New Mexico Business Professionals of America (NMBPA) State

Leadership Conference will be recognized. As a state chapter, I hope that you will join your Officer Team as we aim to achieve the Special Olympics award at the BPA National Leadership Conference. If we accomplish this goal, it will be the first time for the N.M. BPA Chapter. If you would like additional information, please contact me by email at rexrunner21@gmail.com, through text at 505-429-7714, or on Facebook.

The West Las Vegas BPA Chapters are looking to have the longest chain at the NMBPA Conference. Please show your support for Special Olympics and the local WLVB BPA Chapters by making donations that benefit two great causes!

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Caleb Vigil
VP of Community Relations, NMBPA



Luna Community College student Brandon Chavez, a liberal arts major from Las Vegas, talks with UNM recruiter Kate Hilden on campus on Thursday.



LCC President visits with local sports legend Robert "Bobby" Garcia (green jacket) on Thursday. Also pictured are Shawn Benavidez and Alina Tyralsby.



Vanessa Rollings has been working for Luna as the Springer Satellite's office manager since August, 2011. Her last day is Wednesday, Nov. 13. She will be moving to Roswell to work for New Mexico Military Institute as an admissions advisor/recruiter.



This photo of the a sunset in Las Vegas on the campus of Luna Community College was taken at about 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29

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 recently sponsored a Centennial Care (N.M. Medicaid Program) Town Hall meeting through the N.M. Human Services Department. Several community members attended the town hall. Managed Care Organizations were present to provide information on health care coverage they will be offering through NMCC.



Members and advisors of LCC SKILLSUSA clubs are meeting to plan future events and community service projects. SKILLSUSA is a leadership program for technical and vocational education students. SKILLSUSA helps students develop leadership, community service and career skills.

Luna Community College students, faculty, staff and community, a Rough Rider Meal Card is now available. The Rough Rider Meal Card can be purchased at the LCC Fiscal Office. For more information, call LCC Food Services Manager Paul Sandoval at 505/454-2581.

We are “a community college”

By Dr. Pete Campos

I've been invigorated by the enthusiasm, unselfishness and true caring approach by Victor Ramirez, President of our student body; Gilbert Garcia, Vice-President; Billy Ortiz, Treasurer; and, so many other students who have stepped up, expressed themselves in a very positive way and are committed to improving college life here at Luna. I've had students from cosmetology, humanities, athletics, business and trades come in and share what is working for them and their peers and also expressing in a highly positive and constructive way what they can do to help make “our” community college better.

I've also been impressed by the many staff members who care, have participated in our cookouts and other morale builders like college night and Halloween. Student activities like the haunted house, Friday special lunches put on by our Culinary Arts class at the Rough Rider Grill and the proactive approach driven by our Faculty Senate to serve students have all added to the community college we have become.

Yes, there is still work to do, but students from Las Vegas, the region and across the globe have discovered Luna Community College and are getting along, building lifelong friendships and sharing their cultures with each other. There is not another community college that can out due: our respect for each other, our sincere appreciation of student diversity or our genuine support of the STEM students' accomplishments.

Parents and community members from Anton Chico, Rociada, Watrous and all the other small communities in our college service area are expressing their support of the rigorous education students are receiving. These local students, who qualify for financial aid, are receiving

work study and foundation scholarships or qualify for Youth Build incentives are being given the best opportunity to learn and prepare to eventually enter the work force and make a good living for themselves and their families.

I appreciate student advocates like Francine Vigil, Chris Castellano and Chris Montoya who have visited with me and offered their help, ideas and suggestions generated primarily from their classmates on how we can make Luna Community College a better place to be educated. This unselfish approach is refreshing because these students don't expect anything in return for their support of our college. *We are focused on investing everything possible to prepare our students for their futures!*

Our next steps are honed in on making student life here at Luna more meaningful. For example: the grand opening of our veterans outreach center today (Monday) is a first and the development of our partnerships with area high schools is strong and benefitting local students. As a result, more students from the area are making Luna Community College their home away from home.

Our Luna Community College Board of Trustees, administrators, instructors and support staff family members are dedicated to the students, regardless where they are from, who choose to receive their education within our system. We invite anyone who would like to earn a quality education to enroll at our community college. We are not territorial, selfish or just for a few. Rather, we are for those who want a good equal opportunity education and the chance to prepare to enter the world of work and earn a good living for the rest of their lives.

Thank you to all those who have chosen Luna Community College as the place to prepare for their future.

LCC not perfect, but solid

By Jesse Gallegos
*A Different
Perspective*

The more I think about Luna Community College, the more I realize how important it is to northern New Mexico. There are so many people that rely on this college for both an education and for employment.

It is amazing how many people are assisted by this college. Luna Community College has had its doors open for over 40 years and I hope it is around for another 40. Unless people work or go to school here, you may not realize it's importance or relevance to northern New Mexico and to education in general.

I'm not here to tell you that it's perfect; simply because it's not. But I will tell you its solid.

Our tuition rate is one of the most inexpensive in the state and in the entire southwest. Our quality of education is solid and the college has enhanced its efforts in assisting students to reach their goal—to graduate. Those of us that have been around educational institutions all our lives, understand that it's not an easy task. There are many intangibles from the time you are enrolled until the time you walk on the stage and receive your diploma.

I guess what I'm getting at is that Luna Community College is trying. We have resources, however they are not unlimited. But we do the best we can with what we have.

I want to share some information I recently received. I found it pretty interesting.

Did you know that as of Thursday, Nov. 7 1048 of our students are from northern New Mexico. This could be more, however, 311 students did not list a county.

Our college has paid out over \$1.3 million in federal financial aid this year and has awarded over \$132,000 in scholarships.

Our athletic program receives \$215,000 in legislative monies in a line item from House Bill 2, while \$226,925 comes from a transfer from the general fund. What's interesting here is that right now there are 52 baseball players and 18 softball players on the roster. Using even the lowest number of the funding formula, student-athletes will generate \$258,000 this year.

This statistic shocked me. And it might shock you too. Baseball has two student-athletes on a full-ride scholarship, while softball has one student athlete on a full-ride scholarship. Our neighbors down the road at New Mexico Junior College have 18 full-ride student-athletes playing baseball on full-ride scholarships. Our athletic director here at Luna Community College does not get paid one dime from athletics.



Luna Community College

Fall 2013 Semester

SLOA Presenters

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Connie Beil—AH113E.02 | Jessica Gutierrez—EDU201.01 |
| Jesse Boggs—ENG095E.02 | David Muniz—NRSG099.01 |
| Art Abreu—HPS125.01 | Robert Plagge—BT112.02 |
| Carl Vigil—PE121.01 | Clarice Bonney—CSMT109.01 |
| Henrietta Griego—PE135.01 | Albert Padilla—FCMK100.01 |
| Kevin Lucero—PSYC101.01 | Robert Ortiz—FCMK104.02 |
| Chelsea Stoinski—PSYC101.02 | Cory Moore—WLDG105.01 |
| Annette Painter—SPAN101.02 | Arthur Arguello—WLDG118.20 |
| Billy Gay Matthews—MUS108E.01 | Lyndsey Padilla—WLDG148.30 |
| Shereen Lobdell—ART106.01 | Pauline Laumbach—CSA150.60 |
| Tom Hill—HIST101.60 | Venessa Rollings—CSA150.20 |
| Dawnette Garcia—PE113.01 | Joe Baca—MATH116.01 |
| Angelo Archuleta—SPAN101.40 | Betsy Sanchez—MATH116.04 |
| Georgia Cruz—SPAN101.60 | Mary Bustos—MATH180.03 |
| Deborah Arellano—SSD102.40 | Cathy Stauber—BIO105.01 |
| Adam Martinez—FS205E.01 | Joel Stone—GEOL101.01 |
| Mary Helen Ortiz—ECME110T.01 | David Lueras—MATH116R.40 |

Powerpoint Presentations will take place as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, December 10, 2013

LOCATION: LRC Lecture Hall

TIME: 8:30am

Presentations are open to all

Come support your faculty members



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High-Quality Professional Development FOR EARLY EDUCATORS



Attend Early Educators United high-quality professional development on Saturday, November 16. The trainings will cover:

- Advocacy in Early Education, and
- Mind in the Making, the newest research in early childhood education.

WHAT: 6 hours of TTAP’s approved high-quality professional development

COST: FREE for Early Educators United members and \$12 for nonmembers
Materials and lunch provided

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 16
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WHERE: Luna Community College
Child Development Center
Las Vegas, NM

RSVP: Cathy @ 454-2535 or
NMEarlyEducatorsUnited@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/EarlyEducatorsUnited • www.NMEarlyEducatorsUnited.org

