

The Luna Light



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

Volume 2 Issue 45

November 23-November 29



Luna Community College RN student Adelia Vigil is being instructed by faculty member Susan Olson-Smith (RN, MSN Family Nursing) on how to support and help deliver a baby. The simulator being used is called “Nicole” which is a birthing torso. This simulator helps students identify fetal heart sounds (FHT) as well as assess how long, frequent and strong contractions are.



Ian Farris (left) and Harold Brown do the backstroke at the city swimming pool as part of their workout for baseball.

Luna CC faculty and staff address NCA report

Luna Community College faculty and staff met to discuss implementation of the 2009 NCA report. Earlier this month, LCC submitted a progress report to the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools. The report indicates strategies that LCC will utilize to address student assessment and program level goals.

The faculty and staff, along with administration will continue to develop objectives to meet NCA requirements.

“The report is symbolic, addressing our strategies on how we will measure if students are learning and what they are required to learn. Our report is a living and breathing document, guiding our future in academics.” said Dr. Vidal Martinez, LCC vice president for instruction.

Reyes Sanchez says that LCC staff is friendly, but some litter too much

Name: Reyes Sanchez

Position: Maintenance worker

How many years at LCC (what year did you start)? I have been here three years. I started in 2006.

Favorite food and why? Chili. I've always said that as long as there's chili, the world isn't a bad place.

Favorite hobby and why? Working with wood and camping relaxes me.

Favorite TV show and why? I like watching the history and discovery channels. I find them interesting.

Where would you like to see yourself five years from now? Retired.

What do you like best about LCC? The staff is friendly and acknowledges one another.

What do you like least about LCC and what would you offer as a solution? The litter. What concerns me is that some of the Luna Community College staff contribute to the litter problem. Hopefully, the new trash bins that were put in place recently will help.

What is your greatest strength? I get along with people.



Reyes Sanchez says that as long as there is chili, the world will never be a bad place to live in.

The Guessing Game

Can you guess which LCC employee's picture this is? The first person to give the right answer will get a free meal from the LCC Rough Rider Grill. You may enter the contest by e-mailing your answer to jgallegos@luna.edu or calling extension 1200.



Quote of the Week

“Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending,”—*Maria Robinson.*

LCC:
“The People’s
College”

Meet your Rough Riders



Shelby Sandoval

Name: Shelby Sandoval
Position: Pitcher/Outfielder
Major: Criminal Justice
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Las Cruces
High School: Oñate High
Previous college or high school: Luna Community College
Parents and family: Suzanne Sandoval, mother; Tony Sandoval, father; Aaron Sandoval, brother; Jason Sandoval, brother and Steven Avelar, brother.
What are your interests? Softball, spending time with my family and riding horses.

College or high school honors:

Most dedicated player in college and honorable mention in high school.

Plans after graduation? Join the border patrol.

Whom do you admire the most and why? I admire my parents because they have taught me a lot and are always there for me. I also admire all three of my brothers because they are always there for me as well.



Nick Martinez

Name: Nick Martinez
Nickname: Niko
Position: Pitcher
Major: Sports performance with applied science
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Las Vegas
High School: West Las Vegas
Previous college or high school: Trinidad State Junior College
Parents and family: Michael and Elaine Marti-

nez, parents.

What are your interests? Enjoying some one-on-one time with my daughter.

Name: Tomasita Jasmine Smith
Nickname: Tom
Position: Leftfielder
Major: Applied Health
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Belen
High School: Belen High
Previous college or high school: Luna CC
Parents and family: Erica Martinez, mother; Edward Smith, father; Leonel Martinez, step father and Kimberly Strawbing, stepmother.

What are your interests? Sports, movies, country music, being outdoors, eight-second rides and star gazing.

College or high school honors: Member of all-academic team, most improved outfielder and all-district.

Whom do you admire the most and why? I admire my coaches because they have always believed in me and have pushed me to my fullest potential.



Tomasita Jasmine Smith

Plans after graduation? Going to a Division I college and furthering my education.

Favorite pro athlete: Clyde Drexler and Andy Pettitte.

Whom do you admire the most and why? My father, because he is one of the most admirable people I know.



Nick Martinez, Joshua Parsons, Martin Morales and AJ Trujillo show their basketball skills at the city pool.

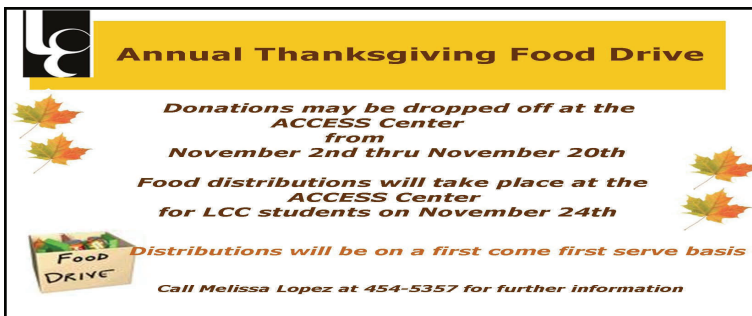
SLOA presentations: an open invitation

At 10 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 7, the Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee (SLOA) will be presenting examples of student learning assessment in the LRC Lecture Hall. The meeting is open for everyone to attend. The purpose of any institution of higher education is to promote learning in all students and learning outcomes assessment is a way to measure the success of the college. Grades alone are not always a good measure of what students have learned. Whether or not they have mastered the competencies required is not always measured by grades so alternative measures have to be devised. These presentations will be demonstrations of those alternative meas-

ures.

Presenters will include Harry Anderson, Wanda Martinez, Richard Duncan, Vidal Martinez, Gloria Pacheco, Juan Ortega, Michael Withnall, Rita Surdi, Ernesto Coca, Jesse Nitzcnski, and Elizabeth Isbell. They will present various methods they have employed in assessing student learning in their various disciplines.

"This program can be a good learning experience for all and we strongly encourage all faculty, staff, and administrators to attend so mark it on your calendars on Dec. 7 at 10 a.m. in the LRC Lecture Hall," said SLOA Chair Peter Manthei.



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

Donations may be dropped off at the ACCESS Center from November 2nd thru November 20th

Food distributions will take place at the ACCESS Center for LCC students on November 24th

Distributions will be on a first come first serve basis

Call Melissa Lopez at 454-5357 for further information

Important dates for next semester

Classes Begin	Monday, January 11, 2010
Holiday, Martin Luther King	Monday, January 18, 2010
Last Day to Add	Tuesday, January 19, 2010
Last Day to Drop	Friday, January 22, 2010

Kudos to LCC physical plant, Medina, Sandoval, Romero, Ravenswood and Vigil

Like many parts of the world, recognition is not given often times enough. The Luna Light Editorial Board agreed that several Luna Community College employees deserve some recognition. Keep in mind that this will be the first in a long series of kudos that will be going out. If someone does something exceptionally well, we welcome the opportunity to recognize them.

We would like to send out kudos to the following individuals: Gene Trujillo, Desidoro Sena, Leon Roybal, Norman Sena, Juan Macias, Manuel Archuleta, Mike Jaramillo, Reyes Sanchez, Mary Medina, Paul Sandoval, Geraldine Romero, Lorraine Ravenswood and Dr. Julian Vigil.

The physical plant employees showed creativity, dedication and saved the school a lot of money in the landscaping project. As well all know, state funds are being cut and by not outsourcing this project it saved the college thousands of dollars. We have also been told, that the project was designed by one of our employees as well. On many days, these employees worked out in the cold and sometimes the rain.

Medina, our vice president for student support services, organized what is believed to be the first Health Care Seminar of its kind in the nation. Rita Torres, president of Health Part-

ners Foundation noted this in a letter that was published in *The Luna Light* last week. The Health Care Seminar was held here at Luna Community College.

We also want to recognize Sandoval, our Rough Rider Grill director for providing more and more nutritional food at both breakfast and lunch.

Romero, the coordinator for the adult basic education and general equivalency diploma program, recently became a certified manager in program improvement. This national certification program is the first of its kind in the adult education and literacy field.

Ravenswood and Vigil, faculty members in psychology and English/literature, respectively, were both invited to attend the Oxford Round Table at Harris Manchester College at the University of Oxford in Oxford, England. The Oxford Round Table is a nonprofit educational conference that hold yearly sessions in Oxford. A principle theme of Round Tables has been an abiding concern about gender issues.

Luna Community College and Oxford University. We like the sound of that.

*Luna Community College
is hosting its
Third Annual Christmas Fair*

*December 12, 2009
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
at the Rough Rider Grill*

***ATTENTION: Vendors**
LCC will provide booths:
\$10 for students
\$15 for faculty/staff
\$20 for community members*

SPACE IS LIMITED, REGISTER TODAY!

*Applications and fees are due no later than
December 7, 2009*

**Food vendors must obtain a permit from the Environmental Dept.*

*Contact Melissa Lopez at 454-5357
for an application or more information*



Several programs are offered at Luna CC

Associate of Arts

Criminal Justice
Early Childhood Multicultural Education
General Business
Liberal Arts
Mass Media Communications
Teacher Education

Associate of Applied Science

Business Accounting
Business Administration
Computer Science
Drafting Technology
Electronics Engineering Technology
Equine Science
Fire Science
General Agriculture
Military Studies
Nursing
Office Administration
Sport Performance
Video Game Design and Development
Vocational/Technical Studies

Associate of Science

Alternative and Sustainable Energy
General Engineering
Life Science
Mathematics
Physical Science

Certificate Programs

Allied Health
Automotive Collision Repair Technology
Automotive Technology
Barbering
Building Technology
Business Accounting
Computer Application Specialist
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Dental Assistant
Early Childhood Development
Furniture and Cabinet-Making
General Education
Office Administration Assistant
Practical Nursing
Small Business Management
Welding Technology

*Please visit our
Website at
www.luna.edu for
more information
on our programs.*

A closer look at LCC adjunct faculty member Rodney Sauter



Firefighter/EMT Rodney Sauter, Adjunct Faculty Fire Science Program

A native of Maryland, Rodney Sauter graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Maryland Baltimore County in 1990 with a B.A. in ancient studies and a minor in anthropology. During college, he taught Latin at the high school and college levels.

Following graduation, he worked for the federal government in Maryland and Washington, D.C. for 13 years.

During his 10 years as a national park ranger, Sauter became a collateral-duty wildland firefighter. In 2002, inspired by the tragic events of 9-11, Sauter joined his local volunteer fire company in Harpers Ferry, W. Va. and became a structural firefighter and emergency medical technician.

In 2006, Sauter and his wife, Marie, moved to Las Vegas so Marie could pursue a career opportunity with the National Park Service. Sauter was soon hired by the City of Las Vegas Fire Department where he continues to serve his new community as a firefighter/EMT.



2009 Thanksgiving Luncheon

Join LCC Student Government for a Thanksgiving luncheon in appreciation of students and Employees.

A \$5.00 donation will be appreciated from LCC employees but is not mandatory to help ASLCC continue 2009-10 initiatives

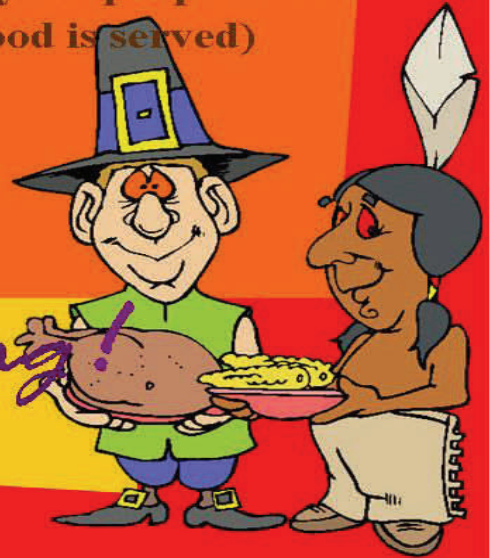
Date: November 23, 2009

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(preparations were made for approximately 300 people and will continue until 1:00 pm or until all food is served)



*Happy
Thanksgiving!*





November 9, 2009

Jesse Gallegos
The Luna Light
366 Luna Drive
Las Vegas, NM 87701

Dear Jesse,

It is a pleasure to inform you that Geraldine Romero has successfully completed an intensive two-year training program and is now a *Certified Manager in Program Improvement (CMPPI)*. This certification is the first of its kind in the adult education and literacy field and signifies him/her as a member of an elite group of professional managers.

Strong, professional leadership is critical to program improvement and high quality adult education and literacy service. That is why the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium (NAEPDC) and ProLiteracy joined forces to develop the *Leadership Excellence Academies (LEA)* training initiative. The Academies are built upon a foundation of research, theory, professional wisdom, and best practices. Training occurs over time and with opportunity for application through a series of interim activities and learning projects.

Participants that successfully complete the LEA training may apply for certification and their activities and learning projects are thoroughly reviewed. Those who demonstrate a grasp of the material, and successful applications of what learned, become a *Certified Manager in Program Improvement*.

We ask that you join us in recognizing this individual's achievement and applauding Geraldine's commitment to continuous improvement and to providing the highest quality educational services to the adult learners in your community.

We are proud to have Geraldine as one of the first CMPPI's in the nation. We believe that your community, and the adult education and literacy students in these programs, is fortunate to have such a high-quality professional working on the behalf.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lennox McLendon
Executive Director
National Adult Education
Professional Development Consortium

Dr. Peter A. Waite
Executive Director
ProLiteracy Programs and
Professional Services

Ms. Kathi Polis
Academy Project Manager



Geraldine Romero, Luna Community College's Adult Basic Education Coordinator recently became a Certified Manager in Program Improvement. She received the credentials after completing an intensive two-year training program. It is the first of its kind in the adult education and literacy field. A complete letter that was sent to The Luna Light is shown above.

Everyone should set goals

By Jessica Stephens
LCC ENG104 student

People need to start setting themselves goals in life. There are too many people struggling in this world, and struggling is no fun at all. It's hard to raise kids or even take care of yourself when you are struggling to keep a roof over your head.

See, I set my goals in life a little late, but the point is I'm doing it. My parents have had to struggle to keep the family together, which has taught me to do something about it. Yes, I did learn a little late in life, but my family is proud of me for making a change in my life anyways.

I just can't wait until the day when I am done with school because I will have completed my number one goal in life: A joyful day for both me and my family.

What I'm thankful for

By Josh Parraz/LCC Eng 104 student

There are multiple things I am thankful for. I am thankful for having my family by my side because they pushed me to fulfill my goals. They have done so much for me this year. My mom and dad help me out and get me through school. My brother and sisters help me with baseball and my social life.

I'm thankful for having God in my life. Faith is a huge deal with me; I'm catholic and I am very religious. For example, before I pitch I say a little prayer to myself because it gives me confidence. When I feel I did wrong towards something I will pray. When I feel I sinned I'll go to confession because after I confess my sins, I feel so good about myself and again, my confidence level goes up.

I'm thankful for having my friends here for me. When I need a friend, they're always there in all the bad times and good times. I got my distant friends, close friends and best friends. I am so glad they are all there for me!

Finally, I'm thankful for living. Life is a gift that every single person gets. Life is special and there are so many people who take advantage of it. My life is powerful; I'm a powerful person due to the fact that I'm going to college. A lot of people look up to me. I feel so important to life that who can take advantage of it? Be thankful.



Luna Community College students enjoy the newly-opened game room that is being run by the LCC Student Government. The game room is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Congratulations goes out to Couture

Barbara Couture was appointed New Mexico State University's 25th president during a special meeting of the Board of Regents Thursday, Nov. 19.

"I am honored to be selected as the next president of New Mexico State University," Couture said. "The NMSU community of faculty, students and staff impressed me from the very beginning with their hopes and dreams for this great university to be the best it can be. I will work tirelessly to assure that NMSU fulfills its promise as the state's great land-grant university, promoting educational access and cultural diversity, strengthening relationships across the university's campuses and extension sites, and achieving excellence in teaching, research, and engagement with the communities, businesses, and industries across the state of New Mexico."

Couture, D.A., is the senior vice chancellor for academic affairs and a professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Couture will start Jan. 1, 2010, at a salary of \$385,000. Her contract also includes use of the presidential residence, a car, a country club membership and at the end of five years a \$500,000 retention bonus funded by the NMSU Foundation. Curtis said the retention bonus was in response to the many stakeholders who expressed a desire for a long-term leader.

Winter Wonderland

FAMILY NIGHT
 Thursday, December 3
 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 Luna Community College
 Rough Rider Grill

Performance by:
 LCC Pre-School

Entertainment by:
 Los Malcriados

Book Marker Making
 Ornaments Making

Christmas Paraffin &
 Polish change

Pictures with
 Santa Claus

Sponsored by:

GAMES!
ENTERTAINMENT!
REFRESHMENTS!
LOTS OF FUN!

Free Books (1 per child)

Balloon Bust
 Cake Walk
 Face Painting

Fishing Pond

LCC Program Information
 will be available



Luna
 Community
 College



Luna Community College President Dr. Pete Campos and the LCC Board of Trustees wish everyone a happy holiday season.

LCC Board goes paperless

The Luna Community College Board of Trustees recently went paperless.

“In an effort to assist in cost-effectiveness our board will begin receiving information electronically,” said Maria Paiz, LCC executive office manager.

The board will no longer receive paper packets for review. Information will be viewed electronically.

LCC: “The People’s College”

The spirit of sharing

By Dr. Pete Campos/LCC President

My reflections this thanksgiving season are mixed. One dominant thought centers on my wholehearted appreciation to Lori (wife) and Peter (son) for supporting my role as public servant and educator and my wholehearted gratitude to each of you for allowing me to serve alongside you at Luna Community College and our area communities.

Another key thought deeply affects me emotionally. I hurt regularly because of the senseless hatred, bickering, violence, homelessness, illness, joblessness, anxiety and jealousy that taunt's our daily existence. I offer my daily thoughts, discussions and life experiences to quash the menacing activities that deteriorate our human fabric. The end results of many of the feelings that perpetuate these negative outcomes can be prevented. Unfortunately, when we don't let go, hold grudges and seek ways to hurt others - illness and tragedy are usual end results.

Through the spirit of sharing, we can change our lives and the lives of those with whom we come in contact. Here are a few ideas. 1] Take some time during the Thanksgiving break to reflect on and gives thanks for the things we take for granted like good health, employment and family. 2] Practice and begin to believe in two phrases: *This too shall pass* and *learn to let go*. 3] If we run into someone we haven't visited with for awhile because of a misunderstanding or ill feelings developed because of something said or not said, let's say hi and let positive feelings surface. 4] If we know of someone who is hungry or homeless, give them something (food, clothes, etc.) that will lift their spirits not only during this special season but in weeks, months and years to come. 5] Participate in the solutions that will make our families stronger, our communities better and our lives more meaningful.

Folktales from all over the world reveal much about giving to others. They reveal a generosity of spirit that speaks the language of

“giving” whether it be time, talent or treasure. I humbly share the following synopsis of a folktale with you in hopes that it brings home the importance of sharing what we have with others. It is entitled, **The Luck of a Child:** The folktale tells the story when a poor man and his wife lament over their poverty after the wife gives birth to a son late in the evening and in their cold house. The couple is worried that the son will die because they do not even have a blanket to wrap the child. Suddenly a man appears at their front door, knocks, the husband answers and the man asks for some straw. The couple gladly gives him some straw, and they soon find out that the stranger has bestowed many blessings on them. The child lives and they are granted good fortune. The moral of the story is; generosity is always possible, no matter how poor we are.

Mohandas Gandhi said, “You must be the change you see in the world.” Buddha said, “All things appear and disappear because of the concurrence of causes and conditions. Nothing ever exists entirely alone; everything is in relation to everything else.” Mother Teresa said, “If you judge people, you have no time to love them.” Dalai Lama said, “If you can, help others; if you cannot do that, at least do not harm them.” Charles de Gaulle said, “Greatness is a road leading towards the unknown.” Overall, if you think about it, we can be in charge of our own destiny! We just need to realize it and not get hung up in the negativity spitefulness can leave at our doorstep.

Let's pull together like never before, rise to the occasion our students expect and deliver the educational passion and mission to which we have been entrusted. Luna Community College is the place where the spirit of giving is recognized year-round. **Our demeanor, philosophy and dedication to student success are distinct qualities definitely worth sharing this Thanksgiving.**



YOU ARE INVITED

TO THE 2009 FALL QUILTING CLASS

OPEN HOUSE

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 3RD
5:30 PM**

**LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SPRINGER CAMPUS**

- **QUILTS AND OTHER ITEMS WILL BE ON DISPLAY**
- **DEMONSTRATIONS OF QUILTING TECHNIQUES**
- **REFRESHMENTS**

Three-tiered specialty cake created by Luna Culinary Department