

The Luna Light



"The People's College"

Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America

Volume 2 Issue 48

December 13-January 10

Getting ready for 2010

Luna CC to partner with Game & Fish Department



Luna Community College and New Mexico Game & Fish officials are shown here at the Santa Rosa Warm and Cold Water Fish Hatchery. Pictured (l-r) are: Lance Cherry, NMDGF; Kevin Holladay, NMDGF; Roderick Gallegos, NMDGF; Martin Frentzel, NMDGF; Patrick Block, NMDGF; Albert Campos, LCC; Gary Martinez, LCC; Paul Sanchez, SRWCFH; Dr. Vidal Martinez, LCC and Dr. Pete Campos, LCC.

Luna Community College and the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish are one step closer to a partnership. Officials from both entities met last Thursday in Santa Rosa and will form a collaboration with the college's agriculture program.

Luna Community College plans to offer an introduction to aquaculture course this spring to Santa Rosa High School students. LCC Santa Rosa Satellite Director Albert Campos is currently putting together a memorandum of understanding that incorporates a partnership with the college, New Mexico Game & Fish and Santa Rosa High.

"Our plan is to create a cohort of students and guide them through the agriculture program in collaboration with the learning resource facilities

within the New Mexico Game & Fish Department," said LCC Vice President for Academics Dr. Vidal Martinez.

LCC Santa Rosa Satellite Director Albert Campos says the possibilities are tremendous.

"It will expand LCC's offerings and give our students a chance to explore more opportunities in their career choices; in helping Santa Rosa it will

attract individuals by way of invitation through our students who participate in this program," said Campos. "These courses will be designed not only to educate our high school and college level students but also to become mentors along with the NMDGF in introducing all ages to aquaculture, fisheries and wildlife."

Campos said that in assembling this kind of team effort, LCC will immediately begin to educate students, along with NMDGF in the use of their new learning center as an outdoor lab both in fisheries and conservation.

"LCC plans to expand in this field utilizing our local water resource in which we are very fortunate to have an abundance of," says Campos. "With an M.O.U. in place this will not only open new doors to our students, but will eventually through grant applications and securing funding, will involve our students in being an important part of making Santa Rosa the fishing destination that it has always been by learning about habitat and conservation of our lakes and streams."

A long-term goal of this program is to combine education, the environment with the economy to sustain and create jobs.



Luna Community College, New Mexico Game & Fish Department along with Santa Rosa School officials meet last Thursday at the LCC Santa Rosa Satellite.

Lawrence Quintana says he is proud to be part of the Luna organization

Name: Lawrence Quintana

Position: Human Resources Director

How many years at LCC (what year did you start)? 2005

Favorite food and why? Mexican food

Favorite hobby and why? Riding horse-back. I have been a member of the New Mexico Trail riders for six years. This year the organization will trail ride at Villa Vidal

Favorite TV show and why? History Channel, I learn about historical events that I did not know about.

Where would you like to see yourself five years from now? I want to continue working with staff and faculty at LCC, or even at NMHU. I love working in the human resources field, but also want to expand my contribution to both schools in the future.

What do you like best about LCC?

Luna Community College has many talented people. The efforts I see most of our staff and faculty to better students lives and their community makes me feel proud to be part of this organization. Luna employees represent a vast part of



Lawrence Quintana says he does not like the negative perceptions that people make about Luna Community College. He feels that people can work together and move this community forward.

our communities and work to improve our communities beyond their 40 to 50 hour week here at the college; they give an

additional 10 hours or more to their community.

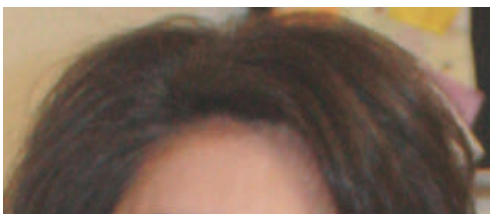
What do you like least about LCC and what would you offer as a solution? I do not like the negative perceptions that people make about our college. I feel that there are far more positive events and developments happening at the college.

My solution is that we continue to let people know the positive aspects of our college utilizing *The Luna Light*, our radio shows and getting our staff, faculty, and students to tell their positive stories.

What is your greatest strength? I greatest strength is the support that I receive from my staff, peers, and family. I am a positive person and I strongly feel that we can work together to move our community forward to benefit future generations. The youth of our community need to continue to get ahead by utilizing our educational institutions. The earlier that our students begin to build their educational credentials the more competitive they will be in the world.

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

“Santa Claus is anyone who loves another and seeks to make them happy; who gives himself by thought or word or deed in every gift that he bestows; who shares his joys with those who are sad; whose hand is never closed against the needy; whose arm is ever outstretched to aid the weak; whose sympathy is quick and genuine in time of trouble; who recognizes a comrade and brother in every man he meets upon life's common road; who lives his life throughout the entire year in the Christmas spirit,”—

EDWIN OSGOOD GROVER, Vicki Howard's *The Book of Santa Claus*

Meet your Rough Riders



Adri Gabaldon

Name: Adri Gabaldon
Nickname: Joe
Position: Pitcher/First Base
Major: Liberal Arts
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Los Lunas
High School: Los Lunas High
Previous college or high school: Luna Community College
Parents and family: Marcos Gabaldon, father; Donnette Gabaldon, mother; Alicia Gabaldon, sister and Marc Gabaldon, brother.

What are your interests? Hanging out with friends, shopping, watching movies and reading the Twilight series.

College or high school honors: 3-year varsity letterman, two-time all-

district pitcher; 3-year district champs and member of 2008 all-star team.

Plans after graduation? To be a surgical nurse and softball coach.

Favorite pro athlete: Jennie Finch, Derek Jeter, Tony Romo and David Beckham.

Whom do you admire the most and why? God and my family for always supporting me in everything I do.

Name: Vicente Fernandez
Nickname: El Chente
Position: Catcher
Major: Drafting Technologies
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Las Cruces
High School: Oñate
Previous college or high school: Oñate High

Parents and family: Raymond L. Fernandez, father and Lisa M. Fernandez, mother.

What are your interests? Sports, working out, family, food and friends.

College or high school honors:

2007-09 all-district first-team

catcher, 2007-08 all-state second-team catcher, 2008-09 all-state honorable mention, 2009 all-star.

Plans after graduation: Pursue a career as an architect.

Favorite pro athlete: Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez.

Whom do you admire the most and why? My parents, for teaching strong values and to work in everything.



Vicente Fernandez



Dylan Silverthorne

Name: Dylan Silverthorne
Nickname: Dielom
Position: Shortstop
Major: Sports Performance
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Deming
High School: Deming High

Previous college or high school: Deming High

Parents and family: Patrick Silverthorne, father; Belinda Silverthorne, mother; Ian Silverthorne,

brother; Chris Silverthorne, brother; Piper Silverthorne, sis-

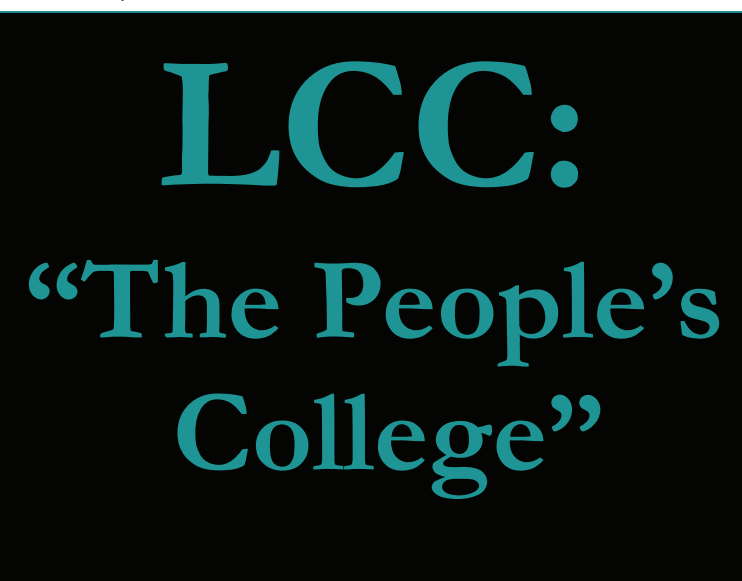
ter; Mia Silverthorne, sister; Chelsea Silverthorne, sister and Eden Silverthorne, sister.

What are your interests? Baseball and to graduate from Luna Community College.

Plans after graduation? Pursue a career.

Favorite pro athlete: Troy Tulowitzk

Whom do you admire the most and why? My family, because they are all I have.



Title V helping Luna CC students succeed



Luna Community College's Title V Online Developer John Tiernan (right) along with LCC Mass Media Communication Director Rand Kennedy, try out equipment at the newly-developed recording studio.

The Title V program accomplished a variety of initiatives this year. They were as follows:

- Developed a video/audio recording studio for pre-recording instructor lectures for online delivery. The recording studio is located in the Learning Resource Center with state of the art equipment.
- Purchased equipment for a 12 computer distance learning lab in Springer. This will include 12 computers, workstations, scanner and printer. The purpose of this lab is for online education access for place bound students in Springer.
- Purchased a 24TB storage server for

support of the online learning infrastructure to service many online classes and other services being developed.

- Online registration has been successfully pilot tested this year and is now available for student use at <http://pathways.luna.edu>.
- The Title V grant matched \$30,000 that was raised by the Luna Community College Foundation fundraising efforts. After the five-year grant period, 50 percent of interest income will be available to LCC for scholarships for students.
- PLATO learning system has been successfully implemented with student participants showing an entire letter grade improvement in their final grades as a result.
- This year, seven additional instructors were trained and are teaching 11 additional redesigned online classes. Larry Paiz has ongoing training for the instructors. Wimba has also been implemented for real-time, verbal communication in online courses.
- Title V continues to search for grants for year six that will be used to develop additional online services.



View and print the Spring 2010 Schedule of Classes @ www.luna.edu

ENROLL TODAY FOR THE SPRING 2010 SEMESTER:

November 16th to December 18, 2009
8:00 am to 12:00pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS
ON DECEMBER 18, 2009 THRU JANUARY 3, 2010**

Spring registration resumes:

January 4, 2010 thru January 19, 2010

CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010

1.800.588.7232 OR 505.454.2500
Register online at <https://pathways.luna.edu>

MASS MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The term “mass media communications” may not sound exciting, but it is among the most dynamic and fastest growing fields of study in the world. Mass media communications include books, newspapers, radio, television, film, and the Internet. If you’re interested in exploring a career in publishing, journalism, broadcasting, film, advertising, public relations, media art, or Internet media, check out the new Program. For more information call Rand Kennedy at (505) 454-2564, or email: rkennedy@luna.edu

SPRING SEMESTER COURSES

INTRODUCTION TO MASS MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

Learn about and understand what the new mass media is, how it influences and reflects society, who and what makes up the “media”, and how does it works.

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 3:00PM- 4:40PM, MAIN, MORA, AND SPRINGER CAMPUSES
FRIDAYS, 8:30AM-11:20AM, MAIN CAMPUS**

INTRODUCTION TO FILM PRODUCTION

Want to learn how movies are made and how to make movies? This is a hands-on introductory course on the art and technique of film making.

**TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 12:00PM- 1:40PM, MAIN CAMPUS
MONDAY EVENINGS, 5:00PM-8:50PM, MAIN CAMPUS**

INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA ARTS

Learn to create graphic art and design using the computer. This is a hands-on introductory course on creating media art.

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, 3:00PM-4:40PM

INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALISM

Extra! Extra! Learn about news reporting and the newspaper business.

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 12:30PM-1:45PM

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING/FICTION

Have stories to tell but don’t know how to tell them? This is an introductory course on writing fiction taught by a published novelist.

SATURDAYS, 10:00AM-12:50PM

PUBLIC RELATIONS IN MASS MEDIA

Public perceptions are important to almost every business, government, politicians, and celebrities. Learn the basics of how to manage and develop effective public relations.

FRIDAYS, 12:00PM-2:50PM

Family Night at LCC



Joey and J.C. Spaulding each look over books at last week's LCC Winter Wonderland Family Night at the Rough Rider Grill. Also pictured are Joey's and J.C.'s grandfather Frank Chavez and LCC employee Kayleen Encinias.



Luna Community College Rough Rider Grill Director Paul Sandoval displays chocolate chip, double chocolate delight and oatmeal raisin cookies he sold at Family Night.



Luna Community College cosmetology students Angeliqe Medina and Tammy Archuleta provided manicure services during Family Night. Pictured here are LCC employees Dawna Ortega and Dr. Andrew Feldman.



Psyched—Ready for 2010

By Dr. Pete Campos/LCC President

According to the urban dictionary, psyched is defined as being excited or pumped up about something. I am confident we are psyched about Luna Community College and the tremendous progress we have made to ensure student development. We still have a way to go but if we roll-up our sleeves, self-analyze and address those issues that still impede a simple, effective and efficient process so students receive full access to the education they deserve and expect **we'll be ready for 2010.**

Take the time during winter break to think about it, let it sink in and return to Luna psyched! It is going to take robust energy, a blend of our fondest and worst experiences, deep knowledge and pulling from the deepest wells of our individual intellects to keep students interested in and focused on what is important to them. Collectively, I am confident we will deliver the dynamic synergisms that are known to bolster student achievement, stimulate their ambition and curiosity and shape their pathway that leads toward success in the world of work.

It is going to take more than the traditional approach. **These days we must do more.** Why? Because fiscal resources are less, jobs have been curtailed but many are still available and the good paying jobs are going to go to those who work hard, are educated and well prepared. There really isn't room anymore to just hire a person because a warm body is needed; now, qualifications serve as the precursor to mid-range job entry and career upward mobility.

As part of the Luna Community College working family, it is going to take more than just specializing in a particular administrative, academic or vocational position. Rhetoric alone will no longer do! It is going to take multitasking or task-switching and we must all do it. We can no longer lionize those who appear to multitask effortlessly and despair at our own haphazard attempts to juggle even two tasks. We all have the capabilities to perform more than one task during the regular work day. That is what it will take particularly during these tough and uncertain economic times when more is expected of us by our employers and the general public. For example: we may be helping a student apply for financial aid one minute and then switch to reviewing and entering student centered statistics for a grant applica-

tion the next. It's easier than we think; but it will take practice, confidence in ourselves and an eagerness to fill our work day with constructive initiatives that best serve our increasing multi-roles at Luna Community College and within the community. **Please remember, we are about community!**

As we prepare for the spring semester we must acclimate ourselves to the task-switching that is ahead. However, to be effective and not get frustrated with this approach we must understand and practice good organizational skills. Such skills are significant because they assist us to function better when we perform our everyday activities, from getting ready to go to work in the morning to remembering doctor's appointments and meeting deadlines at work.

The benefits of multi-tasking and having good organizational skills are unending. For example: If you are a working mom; you can get your family and yourself ready in the morning for your daily activities, complete scheduled tasks and return home in the evening to finish off important responsibilities like opening mail and paying bills and then, possibly watching a movie. Or, if you are a full time student; you can get-up in the morning, get ready to attend AP or college level classes, meet new people, go to work, complete your homework or study for a test and reflect at the end of the day on your accomplishments.

In anticipation for 2010 let us reflect upon the following: We are **ALL** worthy individuals and much will be expected of us when we return in January. Let us open our hearts and minds and fully understand our own personal values and strengths, adapt these traits to best serve students and reach out like never before to build a teaching and learning environment centered on student and our own work related outcomes.

We can no longer just focus on front end strategies, we must also keep our eye on student growth and follow-through (until the very end) on what the student has become due in large part to our guidance, encouragement and teachings. This effort takes a lot more out-of-us but it will benefit students!

Be safe and may your winter break be filled with new experiences that will enrich the work you will do when you return to Luna Community College next year. ¡Felicidades!

"Please remember, we are about community,"—Dr. Pete Campos.

Luna Light reaches over 3,000

The Luna Light is reaching over 3,000 people every week, the majority which receive it electronically, according to editor Jesse Gallegos.

Several entities receive *The Luna Light*, Luna Community College's weekly newsletter, every week which includes area school districts, businesses, media, legislators and state and local entities.

"Our goal is to reach 3,500 people by June and 4,000 by next December," said Gallegos. "According to my calculations we may already be at 3,500; I am currently doing research on this."

Happy Holidays
From the
Luna Community
College Family



Adrian Jaramillo, a student in Luna Community College's intro to drawing class, stands with his artwork at the courses final exhibition on Dec. 7. The top photo shows examples of artwork from the fall 2009 introduction to drawing class.

LCC: "The People's College"

Overview of 2009 Luna Community College activities

By Melissa Lopez

The mission of the LCC Activities Office is to promote social, recreational, and educational co-curricular activities and events that are responsive to diverse student interests and needs. In the upcoming year, I am hoping to engage students, staff and faculty to build relationships, facilitate communication and enjoy campus-life through activities.

The following is an overview of the 2009 activities:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| • March 3, 2009 | Career/Transition Fair |
| • April 30, 2009 | Hair Show |
| • May 5, 2009 | Cinco de Mayo BBQ and Activities |
| • June 2, 2009 | Welcome Back students with Refreshments |
| • June 8, 2008 | Movie Night |
| • June 13, 2009 | Car Show (collaboration with NMHU) |
| • June 17, 2000 | Basketball intramurals |

- June 23, 2009
 - July 13, 1009
 - July 16, 2009
 - July 22, 2009
 - August 14, 2009
 - August 17, 2009
 - August 18, 2009
 - August 19, 2009
 - August 20, 2009
 - September 15, 2009
 - November 1-23, 2009
 - December 12, 2009
- Kite Day
 - Movie Night
 - Campus Luau
 - Ice-cream social
 - Fall Orientation
 - Class Crawl
 - Meet the Rough Riders
 - Grand Opening ACE Tutor lab
 - Back to School BBQ and activities
 - Celebration of National Hispanic Month
 - Food Drive
 - Christmas Fair

LCC recruitment about commitment, reliability and professionalism

Commitment. Reliability. Professionalism.

These virtues exemplify the attitude and efforts of the Office of Recruitment and Admissions at Luna Community College. A great responsibility has been placed on the shoulders of the staff members—shoulders that have endured the rigors of recruiting, promoting, and marketing. We strive to make sure LCC is showcased at every Las Vegas (and surrounding areas) community event pertinent to our educational mission; proclaiming our academic programs, our students, our graduates, our staff, athletics, LCC events and more. This is how we do it.

It is well-understood by the LCC family that recruiting is everyone's duty. In order to showcase we need warm bodies to help spread the word and to shine the lights on our

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LCC recruitment about commitment...

Continued from page 8

institution. Recruitment staff will take on the lead role of scheduling and organizing. LCC volunteers make it happen. Not everyone travels to high schools or career fairs to meet potential students; yet we should all jump at the chance to put in a good word about LCC. Anywhere, anytime. That's recruiting!

In 2009 recruiting for and promoting LCC meant countless visits to high schools in the northern sector of New Mexico. Our seven service area schools and many others such as Questa, Peñasco, Des Moines, Cimarron, Pojoaque, Santa Fe, Capital, Mesa Vista, Jemez Valley, Taos, Roy, Espanola, Raton, Pecos and Vaughn. At the request of schools, recruiters also travelled to Moriarty, Bernalillo, Tohatchi, To'hajillee, Isleta Pueblo, Socorro, and Alamo Navajo. These visits fulfill our commitment to the Native American populations. We find ourselves committing to more and more events sponsored by NM's Eight Northern Tribes and other tribes in our state.

Showcasing comes to the forefront when participating in all our area homecoming parades and community celebrations. We are fortunate to have the number of volunteers to assist with these fun events. In 2009 we attended 13 parades, including *Native American Week* at To'hajillee HS on Nov. 16.

During the summer numerous recruitment booths were set up in Las Vegas, Mora, Santa Rosa, Springer, Pecos, and Raton. We usually

meet non-traditional students at these booths as the set-up is away from any school setting. And that's okay as these folks have aspirations of going back to school, or they have teenagers of their own who could use a bit of information about college. LCC is there!

College Days is perhaps the top priority of recruitment. College Days start in mid September and run through late October taking recruiters to New Mexico communities in the east, west, central and north. We had 36 College Day set ups and met with students from over 70 high schools. A total of 857 students completed a LCC contact card. All were mailed LCC academic information, brochure, scholarship info, admissions application and other materials specific to their request. Follow-up visits continue throughout fall and spring semesters.

Upcoming events include the all-important College Night collaboration with NM Highlands (Feb. 2), Las Vegas Night at the Legislature (Jan 26), Isleta Career Fair (Jan 30), Community College Day (legislature, TBA), NMAA State Tournament (March 12-14), Santa Fe HS Career Fair (April 6), Santa Fe Apprenticeship Days (TBA). We anticipate a host of other career/college fairs by high schools and education services entities; there are many and we strive to participate in all of them.

Thanks to the scores of LCC volunteers who commit their time and efforts to help with the mission of recruiting.

Physical plant wishes everyone a happy holiday

By Ron Gonzales

We the staff at the physical plant would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy holidays. During this time of year a lot of people use this time to reflect on the past as the year comes to an end. It has been a tough year with the state of the economy which has affected all of us one way or another; some have suffered family losses and setbacks. And some have experienced very joyous events during the year such as new arrivals and other successes. As we leave for the holidays we would like to wish everyone in our Luna Community College Family a happy holiday season.

I would personally like to thank those in-

involved with making the Luminaria Drive a success. I would also like to thank my staff for their hard work throughout the year especially the last couple of weeks with dealing with the weather events that have taken place. You have showed that you strive to keep a safe place for our students, faculty and staff. Not many realize that you gave up the safety of your own home to come in at 4 a.m. to remove snow so that LCC could be open and provide a safe environment for our students, staff and faculty.

The physical plant has a couple announcements for the holiday break, they are as follows:

- Security staff will be on duty 24/7

throughout the break.

- North entrance gates will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. (Main Campus)
- Maintenance staff will be working through the break checking heating and electrical systems during the break at all LCC locations.
- Maintenance staff will monitor buildings and infrastructure during the break on a daily basis.

And last but not least, we would like to wish everyone a very SAFE and HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON and break to enjoy with your family and friends.

LCC: "The People's College"

Fiscal office pleased with mid-year budget results

By Donna Flores

Just in time for Christmas, we've wrapped up our mid-year budget hearings and we are pleased with the results. Over 90 percent of our departments were able to review their budgets and come up with savings.

The State of NM did impose cuts from 4 percent to 6 percent or \$372,200; however, through the efforts from all departments we are able to sustain the cuts.

We have been more aggressive in increasing our accountability strategies here at LCC from stricter reporting requirements for travel to raising the number enrolled per class. These along with energy saving measures and more have resulted in greater efficient use of our resources. We have known we were facing state appropriation cuts and have managed growth and expenses accordingly, a chief ingredient in allowing us to continue excellent student services and education during

these lean times.

Our collective efforts of strategic planning and allocation of resources has positioned us to continue with the mission of LCC that is to make the most of our resources and provide the best educational experience for our customers.

LCC is also seeking additional revenue streams from grant funding, other state resources and considering a modest tuition increase. LCC will also assess the fees charged as they are not commensurate to the costs associated with some programs and inflation.

One sure way to increase revenues is to increase enrollment and we're all recruiters for LCC. Each time we speak well of our school and promote our programs, advertising and good marketing occurs which leads to more students at LCC. Let's all be part of the economic stimulus!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Luna Community College employees are involved

By Lawrence Quintana

The purpose of this article is to provide *The Luna Light* readers with a positive view of LCC employee commitment to employee performance and community service commitment. Each year employees submit to their supervisors a staff and faculty development plan. So why do we go through this exercise? Of course, establishing performance goals allows every supervisor the opportunity to validate their subordinates understanding of department's goals and objectives. Establishing professional development goals increases the value of each employee to the institution. Establishing health/fitness goals increases productivity and helps each employee access their health. Finally this is a community college encouraging employees to network and become involved in their community which strengthens the institutions knowledge of educational needs, economic conditions and opportunities to leverage education as part of community and service area resources.

So what are some of the community service organizations or events, LCC employees are involved with: Mainstreet, Rotary, Water Board, Las Vegas City Council, Santa Rosa City Council, NMHU Anti Racism Collaboration, Member Romero Ditch Association, Tri County Farmer's Market Community Garden Project, PHI THETA KAPPA, N.M. Athletic Association, NM Officials Association, Board of Directors NMHU Alumni, VFW,

NM Student Outcomes Taskforce, Las Vegas Women's Club, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Deacon, Fiesta Committee, Robertson School Board member, Utility Committee, Eucharistic members, food drives, Robertson Advisory Committee, City of Las Vegas Green Committee.

Luna Community College employees are vested in their community and the LCC service area.

Employees are involved their community, but I do not feel that we can begin to understand how involved LCC employees really are so I want to state a few other committees they are involved with. West Las Vegas Alumni Committee, Las Vegas City Schools Parent Advisory Committee, Competitive Grants Advisory Team, Council for Technology in Education, NM Science, Technology, and Math Advisory Committee, Skills USA, WLV Head Start Education Committee, NM State Senate, Little league, LCC Hair Show, Holiday fair, LCC Golf Tournament, LCC Foundation, student organizations, LCC Holiday Light Show, electric light parade, fitness training, public safety training, rodeos, regional roping events, 4H Club, churches, veterans organizations, taking care of sick children, grandchildren, and

aging parents and many other community activities. When I began to speak with a few employees I was totally amazed. Even employees that are in the National Guard have to go to annual training. Does their absence affect their commitment to Luna Community College? I do not think that being a patriot is in anyway going to be a conflict with their commitment to their country and dedication to the students they serve.

Luna Community College employees are vested in their community and the LCC service area. This involvement in their communities and the state of New Mexico is part of our employee's dedication to their profession. So do we ask our Luna Community College employees to focus only on their job or do we encourage them to become involved with their state, community or family? Luna Community College provides northern New Mexico with many educational opportunities and resources, but the one other resource that is provided to northern New Mexico is a skilled, talented, credentialed, human resource.

The LCC employee staff and faculty development plan is the foundation for reviewing employee performance, professional development, health/fitness goals, and community service goals. The LCC Human Resources Department will be conducting a training on employee evaluation on Jan. 6, 2010.



These are a couple of photos of a powerful snowstorm that hit Las Vegas last Tuesday.

Many great things in CE/DC

By Patricia Romero

There are many exciting and positive things occurring within the LCC Concurrent Enrollment/Dual-Credit Office (CE/DC). CE/DC works with high school aged students during the following processes: recruitment, admissions, referral for assessment, advisement, and collaboration with Registrars for student registrations. The CE/DC office has been proactive by meeting with school districts and charter schools to expand educational access and educational opportunities to students. CE/DC has provided both informal and formal orientations to students, parents, LCC staff, school districts and charter schools. These orientations have provided valuable information concerning dual credit legislation regarding NM Public Education Department (NM PED) and New Mexico Higher Education Department (NM HED) in the state as well as responsibilities for each party involved inclusive of student, parent, secondary and post secondary institutions.

During the past year, the CE/DC office has developed a CE/DC manual which provided valuable information and collaboration plans for internal and external partners inclusive of COMPASS, LCC entrance assessment primary, secondary, and contingency dates and transportation logistics. It provided internal and external partners a bird's eye view of all the processes and procedures involved with concurrent enrollment and dual credit with LCC internal and external partners. The primary focus of the manual was collaboration; which is the true meaning of teamwork.

The CE/DC office has also improved processes with partner school districts, external and internal partners to continue to reach a goal of a seamless process for both students and districts while meeting CE/DC and institutional timelines. We have collaborated with internal partners to update and create forms. We have outreached to students, parents, community members, school districts

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LCC:
"The People's College"



Mrs. Lori Campos, along with her son Peter Campos, donated \$1,000 to the Luna Community College Foundation last week in honor of her parents Mr. & Mrs. William and Pina Ludi. The money will be used to assist students in the Nursing Department. Pictured are Sarah Flores, Luna Community College Foundation Director, Lori Campos and Peter Campos.

LCC SMET faculty attend assessment workshop

By Dr. Andrew Feldman

When exam time comes around students have to devote time for study to make sure they know the material and get a good grade. When faculty creates an exam they have to decide how to assess the students' knowledge and if the test is a fair gauge of what the students are supposed to be learning. Sometimes the exam and the course learning objectives do not always align.

Four adjunct faculty, one full-time faculty, and the academic director from the Department of Science, Math, & Engineering Technology recently attended an all-day assessment workshop on Nov. 14 at the Plaza Hotel. The purpose of the workshop was to learn more about alignment of assessment and course learning objectives. The assessment workshop was presented by Dr. Chris Nelson from the NMHU College of Education and was sponsored by the Bridging Careers for Success (BCS) program which is a joint effort between LCC and NMHU to ensure student success in the SMET disciplines.

One of the BCS program goals is to provide professional development for faculty. The BCS Program assessment workshop covered how to align assessment tools with learning objectives; a topic essential for all faculty to be effective in creating assessment tools that accurately gauge student learning. The all-day session provided theoretical material and a practical analysis of individual assessment tools for improvement. The LCC SMET faculty in attendance had high praise for Dr. Nelson and the information he presented. For most the material was new, but even those with educational training said it was good to be reminded of things that were learned 15 or 20 years ago.

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LCC:
“The People’s College”

Many great things in...

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and businesses regarding recruitment and customer service efforts.

The CE/DC office has provided resources such as the CE/DC Newsletter on a monthly basis. The newsletter provides valuable information from New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED); CE/DC and institutional timelines for funding purposes; Academics; Program Prerequisites, and CE/DC and LCC events. The newsletter has been inclusive of student and parent testimonials in regards to the benefits and experiences within LCC CE/DC.

The CE/DC Office assisted school districts in regards to providing listings of textbooks, editions, and cost of books to expedite the process of school districts providing purchase orders to LCC fiscal office for dual credit textbook purchases which is part of the dual credit legislation in the state. As CE/DC Director, I am also a member of the Statewide Dual Credit Committee and a member of a local school advisory committee.

The CE/DC office provides extensive advisement to students regarding transferability of courses inclusive of contacts with the post secondary institution of student's choice, career cluster interest inventory surveys, student interest cards, and workforce information. CE/DC has collaborated with external partners regarding resources to assist students with basic needs such as housing, clothing, food, work experience, and transportation. CE/DC staff has provided students support regarding understanding all processes and procedures of CE/DC and walking students around campus to respective departments to ensure students are aware of internal resources and what the functions

of departments on campus consist of. These customer service efforts empower our students.

The CE/DC office is open during the noon hour to provide accessibility to students and parents. The CE/DC office has provided accessibility to access of computers, copier, and printer for student use for classroom assignments. CE/DC has assisted students with creation of usernames for use of LCC computers and online courses. CE/DC staff has assisted students within the navigation of LCC websites, job

search sites, college websites, etc. The CE/DC office works closely with VP of Student Services, VP of Academics, and Directors within LCC. Last but not least, CE/DC collaborated with Vice President for Academics, Dr. Vidal Martinez, and staff during summer 2009 with the SEED (Summer Excellence in Educa-

tional Development) Program and Tech Prep. Summer Program.

For the upcoming year, CE/DC plans to expand on outreach efforts, strengthen internal and external collaborative efforts, refine internal and external processes and procedures and remain committed to serving the changing needs of our student population and surrounding communities. All CE/DC student participants will be administered a career cluster inventory and complete a CE/DC interest card.

CE/DC is making every effort to perform our daily functions in a positive and non-critical spirit. It is important to appreciate the contributions of all team members and support those efforts in an optimistic manner which builds teamwork, rapport, and morale in the Luna Family.

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Celebrity Look-Alike Contest

We are asking individuals to vote on which Luna Community College employee looks more like their celebrity look-alike. Please e-mail your vote to jgallegos@luna.edu or by calling extension 1200. Votes will be taken until 3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14. Remember this is all in fun.



Peter Manthei

and



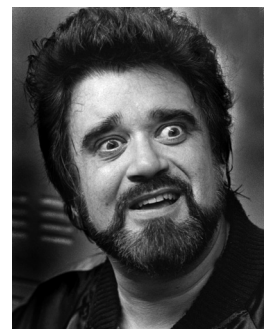
Santa Claus

or



Albert Campos

and



Wolfman Jack

President Barack Obama stresses higher education role in economy

Many commanders in chief have made the claim of being the "education president." Barack Obama may well be the first to seize the title "community college president."

Somewhere between the arrival of a crushing recession and a vice president whose wife is a community college professor, two-year colleges have leapt into the spotlight, as financial pressures lead parents and students to look beyond the likes of Harvard and Penn State.

So when Obama arrives in the Lehigh Valley on Friday, he won't be talking jobs and economic growth at Lehigh University or Lafayette College, where tuition, board and fees approach or surpass \$50,000 a year. He'll be at Lehigh Carbon Community College, where students can work toward a degree for \$86 a credit.

"The president has demonstrated his strong support for community colleges," said LCCC President Donald Snyder. "[The president] understands the need for community colleges to play a role in achieving his higher education goals and providing the training necessary for the country to remain strong economically and competitively in a global market."

The president's appearance may well be a shrewd political move, because community colleges have never been more popular. Gone are the days when the two-year colleges were jokingly referred to as the "13th grade."

LCCC's enrollment, now more than 11,000 students, is up 6.5 percent this year, and the school is already tracking a 22 percent increase in registration for the 2010 spring semester over last spring. Enrollment at Northampton Community College, also more than 11,000, has doubled since 2000, including an increase of more than 9 percent this past year. Its registrations for spring are 14 percent ahead of last year.

Amber Khallouf, 19, of Danielsville understands the draw. Khallouf graduated in the top 10 of her Northampton Area High School class in 2007. Cedar Crest College offered her a \$13,000-a-year Presidential Ambassador Program Scholarship and she was accepted at Yale University. But it still would have left her with hefty annual tuition bills she didn't believe she could handle with her two waitressing jobs.

Instead she's majoring in education at NCC in Bethlehem Township. She hasn't given up her dream of becoming an English professor at an Ivy League school; she's merely taken a detour.

"I like it at NCC, and it's given me an opportunity to get started on my college education," Khallouf said. "I intend to get my bachelor's,

master's and maybe even doctorate degrees. I'm just getting my start here."

Included in the increase in enrollment for community colleges is a rush of recently laid-off workers retraining for new careers. Both LCCC in Schnecksville and NCC have programs offering free tuition to recently laid-off workers.

If Obama gets his way, the growth of community colleges will be more than a recession-induced temporary bubble. In July, Obama unveiled his American Graduate Initiative to spend \$12 billion over the next decade to add 5 million community college graduates by 2020.

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With a community college advocate close to the Cabinet -- Vice President Joe Biden's wife, Jill, is an adjunct professor at Northern Virginia Community College -- local administrators believe they have an ally in the White House. "Finally, we have a president who is saying what we've been arguing for decades," said NCC President Arthur Scott. "Community college is an excellent option to get an education, particularly for those students who have to price-shop." Still, every silver lining has a dark cloud. Even if the new federal

money is approved, community colleges get a large portion of their funding from local school districts and the state. While enrollment has increased by 6 percent to 9 percent in recent years, annual local funding increases have hovered around 3 percent, Snyder and Scott said.

Lots of new students have caused some community colleges across the nation to fill up so fast that they've had to turn students away.

That hasn't happened in the Lehigh Valley -- yet. LCCC and NCC both continue their policies of accepting all eligible students, but if their rolls keep growing faster than their funding, Scott sees two sobering consequences: Tuition will go up and some students will be turned away.

"It would effectively be closing the door to some people," Scott said. "And that goes against everything we're about."

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Article submitted by Regina Madrid

LCC SMET...

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In attendance from LCC were: Richard Duncan (Math & Physics), Gwen Mares (Math), Betsy Sanchez (Math), Jeff Garcia (Electronics), Joe Baca (Math), Angie Manafy (Science), Dr. Andrew Feldman (Academic Director) and Shirley Marlow (BCS Coordinator).

LCC will host another Assessment Workshop presented by Dr.

Nelson during in-service week on Jan. 5, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop will be given in the LRC Lecture Hall; **all full-time faculty are required to attend** and part-time faculty are encouraged to attend. For questions and more information, please contact Shirley Marlow, BCS Coordinator at extension 1022.

The past and future of assessment

By Dr. Vidal Martinez

The other day I was asked my definition of assessment and how it applies to Luna Community College. Assessment is the ability to measure, evaluate or estimate the nature or quality of something. In simple terms, assessment, as it applies to Luna Community College, is to determine if our students are learning what they are required to learn.

Recently, The Higher Learning Commission has indicated that LCC will need to improve its overall assessment practices. To

meet this challenge, LCC will have to submit a monitoring report that is due January 15, 2011, that details the success/failure of the pilot assessment programs, articulation of the learning goals for all of our 43 areas of study, present the data collected in the pilot programs, as well as the ways in which the data have been used to improve student learning.

The task at hand will change the way we do business at LCC. It is important to note that the change in student assessment is inevitable. We can only move forward.

Several initiatives for the pilot program include standard proficiency examinations in English and mathematics, educational testing (ETS) for students in Business, Computer Science and Mathematics, and ETS Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress (MAPP) Test for students graduating in programs that require 36 hours of core credit.

Other initiatives will also take place. Please visit the LCC website and click on NCA Report for additional 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

LCC:
"The People's
College"



Luna Community College student Rico Ortega studies for finals in the humanities department. Classes for spring begin on Monday, Jan. 11.

LCC Student Services on the top of its game

By Mary Medina

The student services staff at LCC provide essential programs and services which support the matriculation, academic achievement, personal development, and quality of life for LCC students. Efficient enrollment services assist students in making effective transitions to the university environment. Educational partnerships and academic support programs promote student learning and help students integrate academic development and personal growth. Creation of meaningful campus traditions and an active campus life encourages the development of student leadership, personal responsibility and accountability and an inclusive and supportive learning environment.

Student Life:

Offering students the opportunity for involvement and expression, service to the community and leadership development is what organizations such as Student Government and Student Activities Office is all about. For information on Student Government, please contact Cindy Branch at 505-454-1205. For information on Student Activities, please contact Melissa Lopez at 505-454-1217.

Enrollment Services:

Admissions Office can help students get off to a great start. Providing prompt and quality services for students is the goal of this division. The staff at the Admissions Office provides information on how to apply for admissions. The Financial Aid Office provides resource information about federal, state, and private funding available to help pay for students' college education. The Office of Registrar provides transcripts of grades, registration for classes, graduation information, as well as, withdrawal information for students who find it necessary to withdraw from LCC. For information on Admissions, please contact Moses Marquez at 505-454-1202. For information on Financial Aid, please contact Regina Madrid at 505-454-2534. For information from the Registrar's Office, please contact Johnathan Ortiz at 505-454-2596.

Academic support:

The ACCESS Center provides students with support, guidance, and direction by providing services in the areas of counseling, career planning, career placement, and education support which consists of, but is not exclusive of, tutorial services, testing, scholarship information, services for students with disabilities, study skills, and test taking techniques. For more information on the ACCESS Center, please contact Veronica Serna at 505-454-2562.

Dual Credit Office:

The Dual Credit Office increases educational options and opportunities for high school students. High schools students are provided with an early "glimpse" of college life and are also encouraged to consider higher education. For more information on Dual Credit, please contact Patricia Romero at 505-454-5377.

Distance Education / Title V

The implementation of On-Line Registration, technical support for on-line courses, and PLATO services are just a few of the resources available to assist students in meeting educational needs via the distance education venue. The Title V staff will continue to develop and implement models that balance technological efficiencies with a level of responsiveness that respects individual needs and the value of human interaction. For more information on Title V, please contact Lorraine Martinez at 505-454-5375.

The student services staff ensures keeping up with current trends, research, and resources in order to continue to provide essential services to meet the diverse and changing needs of students. With student welfare in mind, the student services staff continue to strive to strengthen and refine their ability to listen to all students from all backgrounds and communities, that they assist students with their experiences, challenges, and aspirations and that they focus on being student centered.



The Luna Community College Student Government recently provided coffee during a cold day. Pictured are Naomi Ortiz, Latisha Cano and Miguel Montoya.

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