

The Luna Light



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

Volume 2 Issue 47

December 7-December 13

LCC reshaping its trades department *National accreditation, seeking funds for upgrade, academic rigor among immediate goals for trades*

**By Gary Martinez
LCC Vocational Director**

At this point the Luna Community College Trades Department is developing courses towards a nationally recognized certification program. LCC is in the process of obtaining accreditation through (ASE) for Automotive, (AGC) for Building Trades, (ACF) for Culinary Arts, (PTDI) for CDL and electricity journeyman through (CID). LCC’s cosmetology course has already gone through accreditation with the New Mexico Cosmetology Board based in Santa Fe. Cosmetology has a full licensing accredited program at this point.

LCC is reshaping its trades programs to meet industries needs and to make students employable in the industry. As we all know the economy is in bad financial shape. Our future shows



Pablo Montoya, LCC Building Trades instructor, along with other faculty members, are being asked to teach more theory to their students.

the country will have job openings in repair work and many different trade areas.

LCC is also accommodating enthusiasts by offering classes in the evenings. These classes will also be open to students seeking certification. Classes in all the vocational areas will be taught not only for certification, but for hobbyists to learn how the particular trade works, this will include the theory, training projects and hands-on laboratory work. This will enhance the students ability in that particular vocation or trade. LCC trades department is adding some academic theory and rigor to all areas of study for the simple fact that students need to be given the aspects and learning ability to do well in whatever field or area of study they choose.

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Luna Community College Physical Plant employee Ramon Benavidez guides a trailer load of luminarias that were placed around the campus on Saturday. The public got to view about 4,800 luminarias that evening. Benavidez was among 18 physical plant employees who braved the wind and cold weather on Saturday. LCC Physical Plant Director Ron Gonzales said that his crew started setting up the luminaria drive at about 10 a.m. and many of his employees worked until 10 p.m. For more on the Luminaria Drive see pages 6, 7 and 12.



Nolan says Luna CC strives to be the best student-centered school possible

Name: Ms. Jeanette-Mercedes Nolan

Position: Full-Time Faculty for the Developmental Studies Department

How many years at LCC (what year did you start)? I started working at LCC on Oct 1., 2004 (a little over 5 years) for the ABE Department and moved over to the Developmental Studies Department.

Favorite food and why? My favorite food has to be meatloaf, because I remember the good times I had with my folks over my mom's meatloaf dinner.

Favorite hobby and why? I like to ride horses. When we were young, (my brother and I) we would pretend that we were in different worlds and different people when we'd go horseback riding in the mountains alone.

Favorite TV show and why? I like to watch any kind of game show. I believe that my fondness of such type of shows stems all the way back to when I was a child and my mom would sit me in front of the T.V. to stay entertained. HAHA!

Where would you like to see yourself five years from now? I see myself happy, and in a position of great leadership...who knows.

What do you like best about LCC? I like that LCC we are a college that is able to get the students interested in our courses, teach them, and then send them into the world as a productive member of the community. We are all teachers here giving to the minds of the future. We strive to be the best student-centered school possible.

What do you like least about LCC and what would you offer as a solution? I don't like that at times the morale here at this school can really be very low. We need to work together by showing our students, the community, and world that we are the "premier college" that we profess to be. TEAMWORK and the occasional "Good morning" would suffice every now and then.

What is your greatest strength? My greatest strength is my ability to speak my mind...I know that I have a **VOICE**. Sometimes some people don't like to hear what others have to say, but I value the gift of a good "voice". Remember, with voice comes great responsibility, yet we all deserve to be heard!

In five years, Jeanette-Mercedes Nolan would like to see herself happy and in a position of leadership.



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

"The great aim of education is not knowledge but action,"—Herbert Spencer (1820-1903).

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Meet your Rough Riders



Daniella Garza

Name: Daniella Garza
Nickname: Bri
Position: Third base
Major: Psychology
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Roswell
High School: Goddard High
Previous college or high school: Goddard High
Parents and family: Daniel Garza, father and Vanessa Martin, mother.
What are your interests? Softball and hanging out.
College or high school honors: All-district player in softball, volleyball and basketball and all-state

honorable mention in volleyball.

Plans after graduation? Make a lot of money and own a dog like Marley.

Favorite pro athlete: Manny Ramirez

Whom do you admire the most and why? My aunt Jessica because she always knows what to say.

Name: Vanessa Vigil
Nickname: Nessa
Position: Pitcher and shortstop
Major: Liberal arts
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Albuquerque
High School: Cibola High
Previous college or high school: Cibola High
Parents and family: Rafael Vigil, father and Vergie Vigil, mother.
What are your interests? Spending time with family and friends and making fond memories.
College or high school honors: Most spirited in high school.

Plans after graduation: Get a softball scholarship to a four-year school.

Favorite pro athlete: Jennie Finch

Whom do you admire the most and why? My parents, because they've taught me everything I know and made me the person I am today. I love you guys.



Vanessa Vigil

cause they have both been through so much in so many different ways. They have taught me to be strong and be who I am today.



Tony Soto

Name: Tony Soto
Nickname: T-Dogg
Position: Catcher/pitcher
Major: Fire Science
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Las Cruces
High School: Oñate High
Previous college or high school: Oñate High
Parents and family: Maria Rodriguez, mother; Saul Soto, father and Donna Soto, sister
What are your interests? Baseball, workouts, four-wheeling, hunting, family and friends.

Plans after graduation? Join the army

Favorite pro athlete: Ivan Rodriguez and Alex Rodriguez

Whom do you admire the most and why? My parents, be-



Baseball players along with computer science faculty member Jeff Thomson enjoy a Thanksgiving meal.

LCC reshaping...

Continued from page 1

LCC, at this point, is seeking funds to provide an up-to-date training environment. Right now, LCC is seeking funds from the state of New Mexico to renovate the automotive, welding and building trades facilities. This will bring the buildings up to code and make it possible to meet the criteria of the national certification process.

LCC trades is also working with agencies that not only help with tuition, but can help with job placement. We are also promoting students to learn how to look for job openings on the Web. Here at LCC we are working on providing marketable individuals, but at the same time we are not setting aside the hobbyists. We are a community college working on providing students with skills they can use whether its for a hobby or employability.



John Martinez from Mora is pictured here working on his 1953 Ford Truck Cab. He is in the beginning stages of the collision repair restoration project, in which he hopes to complete within the next year. He is pictured with Anthony Baca, automotive collision repair instructor. LCC is committed to continue providing education to hobbyists and enthusiasts. If you would like more information on these programs you can call 505-454-2591 or logon to our website at www.luna.edu.

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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>

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*



LCC Student Government collecting jackets, blankets, pillows and non perishable items for local community

In an effort to help out local churches and soup kitchens that lend a hand to many people in our community, the Luna Community College Student Government is collecting many items for the holiday season.

Among the items that are being collected are: jackets, blankets, pillows, toiletries, canned goods and other non-perishable food.

One of LCC Student Government poster reads: "As the nights get colder during the holiday season, we tend to forget about the less fortunate in our community."

**"Cherished are those who give without remembering and respected are those who receive without forgetting," —
unknown author.**

All donations can be dropped off throughout the community where boxes with LCC logos are present. You may also contact LCC Student Government Advisor Cindy

Branch at 505/454-2533 or e-mail her at cbranch@luna.edu.

LCC Luminaria Drive 2009



Luna Community College Cosmetology students and faculty made approximately 700 of the 4,800 luminaria bags that were on display during the college's annual Luminaria Drive. Pictured front row (l-r) are: Stephanie Lucero, Sharise Lucero, Denise Baca, Kim Baca, Amber Garcia, Dominique Montañó, Ashley Palomares, Desiree Griego and Rayna Tafoya. Back row (l-r) are: Germaine Sandoval, Rosalie Ortega, Alicia Martinez, Amy Romero, Ezra Roybal, Kenneth Ulibarri, Catherine Gallegos, Danelle Duran and Freddy Carrillo.



Physical plant employees Marvin Maestas and Ernest Roybal put up luminarias at about 2 p.m. on Saturday. The top photo was taken around 1:30 p.m. in front of the LCC Administration Building. The luminarias were lit at 4 p.m.

LCC Luminaria Drive 2009



Pictured clockwise are: Michael Jaramillo and Juan Macias set put a reindeer display; Mike Adams and Lawrence Quintana decorate an LCC semi that was used in the Las Vegas Light Parade; Nazario Maestas sets up a luminaria and Deborah Varela gets ready to light a luminaria. For more photos, see page 12.

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Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- » Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- » Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- » Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- » Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- » Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- » Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- » Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- » Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- » Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- » Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- » Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- » Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

BEFORE HEADING OUT OR TO BED

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.



FACTS

- ! December is the peak time of year for home candle fires.
- ! **Roughly two out of five** home fires start in the kitchen.
- ! Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires.

www.nfpa.org/education



**New Mexico
Hospital Association**

November 17, 2009



Contacts:

NMHA

Trish Garduño
tgarduno@nmhsc.com

Ellen Interlandi
einterlandi@nmhsc.com

505-343-0010

SPECIAL ADVISORY

H1N1 Hot Line

1-877-304-4161 (H1N1)

Good News, Everyone! The H1N1 Line, 1-877-304-4161 (H1N1), is now active.

The new *H1N1 Hot Line* will soon be posted to the NM DOH website.

<http://www.health.state.nm.us/H1N1/index.shtml>

The number is new, but the services to which it connects are not. The number works by allowing callers to select any one of a variety of services:

- Nurse Advice Line
- Questions to pharmacists at the poison control line
- General flu information (in English and Spanish)
- ERD anti-viral information
- Immunization information for providers
- Many others

CDC References

CDC Novel H1N1 Vaccination Planning Q&A
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/statelocal/qa.htm>

H1N1 Flu (Swine flu): Information for Specific Groups
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/groups.htm>

Businesses and Employers
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/business/>

Pregnant Women
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/pregnancy/>

Schools, Daycare Centers, Colleges and Universities
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/schools/>

New Mexico Department of Health
<http://www.health.state.nm.us/H1N1/public.shtml>

H1N1 Fact Sheet
http://nmhealth.org/H1N1/documents/H1N1FactSheet_final_8-3-09.pdf

Information for Health Care Providers
<http://nmhealth.org/H1N1/provider.shtml>

Fact Sheets and Antiviral Information
<http://nmhealth.org/H1N1/forms.shtml>

NMHA Website for Medicare FFS and all other H1N1 Updates
<http://www.nmhanet.org/quality/emergency-preparedness/H1N1%20Virus>

Disclaimer The NMHA *H1N1* guideline was prepared as a service to our members. It is not intended to take the place of either policy or regulations. We encourage our members to review the specific recommendations, guidance and other materials found at the NM Department of Health or the CDC.

7471 Pan American Freeway NE Albuquerque, NM 87109
505.343.0010 www.nmhanet.org

Meet Andrew Duran, LCC's safety coordinator

Las Vegas native brings plenty of experience to LCC

I am a born and raised Las Vegas; I attended both West Las Vegas Schools and Las Vegas City Schools. I graduated from Robertson High School. Upon graduation I had the opportunity to live in California with family for the summer. I returned to Las Vegas and started work at a local grocery store and attended what was then referred to as LVTI (Luna Vocational Technical Institute). After about a year and a half I became a volunteer firefighter with Co. 1 Volunteer Fire Department, where my passion for public safety evolved and was the beginning of a great career. Upon a short period of serving as a volunteer, I was offered a paid position as an Engineer (equipment operator) with the City Fire Department. I tested and was selected for the position. This position was temporary as a result of employees that were activated to serve our country. When these employees were scheduled to return, rather than lose my position, the city fire department decided to hire their first in history paid firefighters.

With this historical event, my career moved forward. In observing the trends in the fire service, I saw it necessary to enroll in an Emergency Medical Technician course with no cost to the department. On completion, I successfully obtained my EMT-B license. Through my seventeen and a half year career with the city fire department, I served as a Firefighter/EMT, Engineer I/EMT, Engineer II/EMT. Throughout this time no rank structure existed in the department,



Andrew Duran

upon the retirement of the fire chief, I served as interim fire chief for a short period until a permanent chief was hired. I worked diligently with the chief to develop the first rank structure for the fire department. With its completion I was appointed to the position of assistant fire chief another first for the city, where I served for several years. I was later promoted to fire chief as the youngest chief the city had. This allowed me to bring in new ideas used in modern firefighting techniques. During my career in the fire service I was a two time recipient of the Phoenix Award (life saving award-in providing medical care) and to my knowledge the only recipient of the Medal of Valor (heroism award).

Holding an EMT license allowed me to work part time with Aid Ambulance and later with Rocky Mountain Ambulance Service, I also worked for the police department in the communication division for a short period; this helped me gain knowledge on what occurs on the other side of public safety.

I am able to bring with me years of experience and training in various fields such as: firefighting, arson investigation, hazardous materials, incident command, fire code enforcement and inspection. I am blessed to be married to a wonderful woman and to have beautiful children. I enjoy spending time with family, being outdoors and enjoy cooking whether on the grill or in the kitchen. A priority in my life is to see my family happy and healthy.

Winter Wonderland Family Night rescheduled for Dec. 10

Luna Community College's Winter Wonderland Family Night that was originally scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 3 has been rescheduled for Thursday, Dec. 10 at the Rough Rider Grill on campus, according to Kayleen Encinias one of its organizers. There is no cost to attend this event.

The activities include a performance from the Luna Community Pre-School students, a performance from Los Malcriados, a photo with Santa Claus, free books, a balloon bust, a cake walk, a fishing pond, face painting and Christmas paraffin and polish change with the LCC cos-

metology students.

Last year, 500 people attended the event.

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Luna Community College President Dr. Pete Campos, (third from left) along with LCC Springer Satellite Director Louise Portillos, talk with New Mexico Secretary of Corrections Joe R. Williams and Deputy Secretary of Administration Jolene M. Gonzales about the possibility of allowing the college to provide classes to both corrections personnel and inmates.

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.*



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. 7. Remember this is all in fun.



and



or



and



Dr. Pete Campos

Wayne Newton

Henry Sanchez

Walter Matthau