

The Luna Light



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

Volume 3 Issue 12

March 15-March 21

Working together to plan our future *Luna CC to host regional meeting March 17*

Luna Community College will be hosting a regional meeting with the vision of “Working Together to Plan Our Future” from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17 at the Rough Rider Grill. This effort will bring leaders from northeastern New Mexico together to discuss, plan, and strengthen communication between communities for future growth.

Retired General Edward D. Baca will be the keynote speaker. He along



Gen. Edward D. Baca

with others will provide dynamic presentations on leadership, regional development, organization and outcomes. The University of New Mexico School of Archi-

ecture and Planning, Community Outreach will also be in attendance for the purpose of observing and providing recommendations on how to formulate a plan to successfully update the region for the future.

The college is encouraging the community to please take some time and join us on the main campus of Luna Community College for this informative event.

For more on the event, see page 5.

“Pennies for Patients” getting closer to goal

After the first week in taking part of a nationwide fundraising effort to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Pennies for Patients Program, LCC is off to a great start in its goal of \$500. LCC will continue to raise money for another two weeks.

The totals are as follows:

IT/Human Resources/Dual Credit	\$106.86
Bookstore/AHEC/Small Business	\$13.43
Nursing/Dental	\$136.83
Wellness	\$1.50
Registrar	\$15.40
Library	\$1.41
Small Business	.46
Vocational	\$14.66
Presidents/Financial Aid/Fiscal Office	\$3.66
SMET	\$14.02

Leading by example

By Lawrence Quintana

This article is about leading by example. Many of us have heard about leading by example, but many of us do not know or have not been exposed to a true example of this type of leadership.

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Luna Community College baseball players Antonio Soto and Isaiah Dominguez are pictured here touching up helmets. The baseball team recently broke a school record for runs in one game with 30.

Geraldine Romero says that she is old-school when it comes to communication

Name: Geraldine Romero
Position: Adult Basic Education Program Coordinator
How many years at LCC (what year did you start)? I was first employed by LCC in August of 1979 as a distributive education teacher and accounting teacher. I returned 23 years later (2002) to teach English, reading, and math for developmental studies. In August, 2007, I was hired as the ABE Coordinator.

Favorite food and why? I think my favorite food depends on my mood. I love a variety of foods: enchiladas, burritos, pasta, sushi, and lobster, to name a few.

Favorite hobby and why?

Two of my favorite hobbies are running and reading; they both help to relieve stress, and, hopefully, these hobbies keep me healthy, both physically and mentally.

Favorite TV show and why? I don't nec-



Geraldine Romero says that communicating by phone is a lot better than through e-mail.

essarily have a favorite TV show, but I like anything that is educational or entertaining.

Where would you like to see yourself five years from now? I see myself retired but holding a part-time job and traveling.

What do you like best about LCC? The affordability, the teacher-student ratio, the student support from instructors and staff, and the opportunities that are available to our student population.

What do you like least about LCC and what would you offer as a solution? Lack of communication seems to be our biggest drawback at LCC. I would suggest answering your phones. I'm probably old school when it comes to communication, but the quickest way to solve a problem is direct communication, and I feel that you may lose some of your meaning when

e-mailing.

What is your greatest strength? I'm here to support and assist our students to reach their goals and will help them in any way I can to become whatever they want to be.

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. One winner per month.

Quote of the Week

“When one door of happiness closes, another opens; But often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us,”— **Helen Keller.**

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Luna Community College Building Trades students, under the direction of instructor Frank Madrid, recently received their Associated General Contractors (AGC) and National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) certificates. Pictured (l-r) are: Madrid, Raymond Mora, Michael Montano, Charles Montoya, Michael Valdes and Joseph Gomes. Not pictured are Dennis Silva, John Silva, Pablo Montano and Joseph Montoya.

Luna CC's pathway for re-accreditation

By Dr. Vidal Martinez, Vice-President for Instruction

Luna Community College was accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in 1982 and will have its next comprehensive evaluation in 2014. The mission of the HLC is to serve the common good by assuring and advancing the quality of higher learning. To assist LCC with "assuring and advancing the quality of higher learning" the HLC is requiring a monitoring report by Jan. 15, 2011. The monitoring report must provide the following information: 1) articulation of learning goals for all areas of study 2) detail the success/failure of the pilot assessment programs 3) present the data collected in the pilot

assessment programs, and 4) explain how assessment data has been used to improve student learning.

To meet HLC requirements, staff and faculty are assigned specific tasks. For example, Academic Directors will articulate the learning goals for all areas of study and explain how assessment data is used to improve student learning. Furthermore, the Educational Testing Services (ETS) evaluation test will be administered to graduating students, randomly selected, starting April 2010. The following rubric outlines the pilot assessment procedure.

See Pilot Assessment Program Rubric on page 8.

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IRS Certified LCC Accounting
Students providing
Free Tax Preparation

Services available for household
income \$50,000 and under.

Luna Community College accounting students will be preparing taxes for the community at the Business & Professional Studies Building Room 107 on the following dates:

March 6, 2010	9:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.
March 13, 2010	9:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.
March 27, 2010	9:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.
April 3, 2010	9:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.

What to Bring:

- Current year's tax package and or label.
- All forms W-2 and 1099's.
- Information for other income.
- Information for all deductions/credits.
- A copy of last year's tax return.
- Proof of account for direct deposit of refund (e.g., voided check).
- Social Security cards or
- Individual Taxpayer Identification notices/cards for you, your spouse,
- And/or dependents.
- Proof of identification for yourself and/or your spouse.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL JANICE ENCINAS
(505) 454-5374**

Leading...

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A fundraiser being conducted by the LCC Student Government placed boxes in each department which reads "Pennies for Patients" for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

This is a good cause that LCC students are participating in, helping fund cures for cancer. Being a cancer survivor, I put two dollars in the box and did not think about it again.

While I was meeting with the Mike Adams, IT director he showed me a piggy bank full of pennies that D.J. Montoya contributed to the cause. D.J. is seven years old and the son of Denise Montoya who works in the IT department. Mike informed me that D.J. took it upon himself to give all the pennies he had saved for this cause. I reflected on this and realized that with all the negative world, state, and local media we read about, there is still some things we should really recognize.

A seven year old gave all of his savings without wanting anything in return. He gave because it was a good thing to do, because he wanted to truly help out. D.J. Montoya is leading by example, and when I saw this type of leadership I went home and got my bottle of pennies and brought it in. When I told my staff why I brought in my bottle of pennies, one of them followed suit. I am asking all of you that read this and follow D.J. Montoya's example and give to this cause.

Thank you Title V

The staff and students at the LCC-Springer Satellite are very pleased with the Title V lab that was set up in December.

Students who are taking online classes with LCC have really taken advantage of utilizing the new computer lab since they do not have access to a computer at home or else where.

Our online course offerings have expanded and we have seen a tremendous increase in our online enrollment in this area. We have students from Cimarron, Maxwell, Raton, Springer, Wagon Mound and other surrounding areas taking online courses. This also includes many high schools' (dual credit) students who have expanded their course loads through online courses.

We want to thank Rick Roybal and John Tiernan who worked diligently to get the lab up and going before we started our 2010 spring semester.—**Louise Portillos**

Luna lights way to jobs

By Dr. Pete Campos

Have you ever driven down the road in the evening and been comforted by the light of a full moon? If you have, wasn't it amazing how you looked straight at the moon and were mesmerized by its calmness, beauty and friendly smile? When I have experienced the light of a full moon, its coolness, subtle light and mystical presence got me to think about and be thankful for the simple pleasures of life. For example: While driving under the light of a full moon, I have thought of the many evenings sitting between my grandparents (who are deceased) on their porch swing listening to their conversations and staring at the stars in the sky. Those were special nights filled with learning moments and feeling the love from both of them. What were your thoughts when you were guided by the light of a full moon?

That leads me to the core of this article. Luna Community College is like that full moon

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Edward D. Baca, President & CEO

"Leadership with Vision"

Lieutenant General (retired) Edward D. Baca served in America's Armed Forces for 41 years. After retiring from active duty military service and prior to forming Baca Group, General Baca consulted in both the public and private sectors and devoted his time to community service. He was in constant demand as a keynote conference speaker and served as a role model for Hispanic and other minority youth. In September, 1998, he formed Baca Group as a management and training consulting firm dedicated to not only doing a good job for clients but helping clients to do "good" in the broadest sense of the term. His vision is that Baca Group will seek to help clients with projects that will benefit community and nation and make the world a better place to live.

General Baca's military career included 41 years of distinguished service culminating in an appointment by the President of the United States of America to the position of Chief, National Guard Bureau in the Pentagon in Washington D.C. In this position he oversaw the Army and Air National Guard in the 54 States Territories and the District of Columbia. This included having regulatory authority for approximately 500,000 Guard members in almost 3000 communities nationwide. He had an annual budget of over \$9 billion and was the Custodian and Accountable Officer for facilities and equipment valued at more than \$100 billion. As Chief, National Guard Bureau, he served as the channel of communications between the Department of Defense and state/territory Governors on all National Guard matters. He was the principal advisor to the Secretary of The Army and Chief of Staff of the Army and Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force on all National Guard issues. Previously he served for 12 years as Adjutant General of New Mexico, Chief of Staff of the New Mexico National Guard and in diverse command and staff assignments with responsibility for personnel, financial, administrative, and logistics functions.

Under his leadership, the Army and Air National Guard achieved their highest levels of readiness and performed both their federal and state mission in an exemplary manner. He instituted numerous cooperative Guard ventures nationally and internationally though political and personal outreach, relationship building,



Gen. Edward D. Baca

negotiation and contractual agreements. Geopolitical areas of direct influence included Western Europe, Latin America, Southeast Asia, former Soviet Eastern Bloc nations to include Russia, and the 54 U.S. states and territories. He gained a national reputation for the National Guard's involvement in community-related activities to include extensive involvement in counter-drug and drug demand reduction activities and Youth-at-Risk Programs. He is widely recognized as a champion of U.S. veterans and is a role model for Hispanic and other minority youth.

General Baca began his military career when he enlisted in Battery C, 726th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, New Mexico National Guard. He served in numerous enlisted assignments and graduated from Officer Candidate School in July 1962. At the onset of the Vietnam Conflict, he volunteered for active duty and overseas deployment and served in the Republic of Vietnam. He returned to the New Mexico National Guard after active duty service in February 1966 and rose to become the Adjutant General of New Mexico in 1983. He was appointed Adjutant General by two Democratic governors and one Republican governor and served for 12 years before accepting a presidential appointment as Chief, National Guard Bureau in 1994.

General Baca is a graduate of numerous military schools and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Arts from the State University of New York at Albany.

His numerous awards and decorations include the Department of Defense Distinguished Service Medal, two Army Distinguished Service Medals, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation, the New Mexico Medal of Valor and the Norwegian Royal Order of Merit with Command. He received the Secretary of Defense's Outstanding Drug Demand Reduction Program Award and the American G.I. Forum Founders' Award. He also was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Law degree from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

General Baca is married with seven adult children and resides in Albuquerque.

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Meet your Rough Riders



Isaiah Dominguez

Name: Isaiah Dominguez
Nickname: Dirty Dogg
Position: Outfield
Major: Building Trades
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Las Cruces, N.M.
High School: Mayfield High
Previous college or high school: Luna Community College
Parents and family: Ida Calleon. Grandmother and Leland Dominguez, son.
What are your interests? Hunting and playing different

sports.

College or high school honors: All-district and all-state in baseball.

Favorite pro athlete: Josh Hamilton



Joshua Rodriguez

Name: Joshua Rodriguez
Nickname: Soo Woop
Position: Shortstop/pitcher
Major: Criminal Justice
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Las Cruces, N.M.
High School: Mayfield High
Previous college or high school: Mayfield High
Parents and family: Cynthia Rodriguez, mother and Alina Rodriguez, daughter.
What are your interests? Taking care of my daughter Alina.

Favorite pro athlete: Dustin Padroia

Whom do you admire the most and why? Alina Rodriguez, because she gives me inspiration to be better in life. And God.

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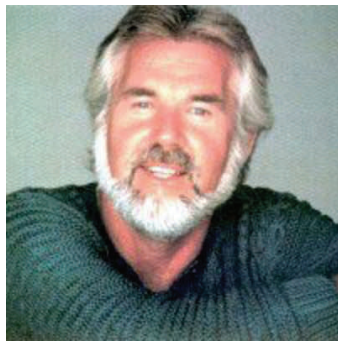
Celebrity Look-Alike Contest

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, March 15. Remember this is all in fun.



Rand Kennedy

and



Kenny Rogers

or



Mary Duran

and



Erika Ruiz

LCC's Beta Mu Nu Chapter named N.M. Region Distinguished Chapter for fourth consecutive year



Top photo (l-r) are: Luna Community College students Shalena Bailey, Laurie Carrillo, Destiny Torres and Albert Dean. Pictured in the side photo is Dr. Twila Quintana with New Mexico Regional Secretary Torres Leyba.

By Cindy Armijo

Officers and members of the Luna Community College Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society attended the N.M. Regional Spring convention in Tucumcari on Saturday, March 6, 2010. For the fourth consecutive year, the Beta Mu Nu Chapter of Luna Community College was awarded recognition as Distinguished Chapter of the New Mexico Region during the Region's Hallmark Awards Ceremony. Beta Mu Nu swept the Chapter Awards in every Hallmark Category by being

awarded the following: Scholarship Award, Leadership Award, Service Award and Five Star Level Recognition. Shalena Bailey was named Distinguished Chapter Officer and Dr. Twila Quintana was awarded the Distinguished Chapter Advisor Award. The Beta Mu Nu Chapter has inspired chapters throughout the state to compete for Hallmark Awards; our region experienced an increase in the number of entries this year. "Being the leading chapter in the state carries a great deal of responsibility," said Dr.

Quintana. "We must continuously challenge our officers and members to strive for excellence in order to maintain the precedent we have set." According to Chapter Advisor Cindy Armijo, "once you have become the top chapter, others are motivated and determined to surpass you. Twila and I have set high standards and we expect our chapter to be the best. It is our mission to demonstrate the quality and caliber of students we produce at Luna Community College and in the Beta Mu Nu Chapter."

The N.M. Region also held Regional Officer Elections for 2010-11. Two LCC students, current chapter president and Criminal Justice student, Destiny Torres and pre-nursing student, Albert Dean campaigned for Regional Secretary and Northern District Vice President, respectively. Both students represented LCC and our chapter with dignity and integrity. Albert received the majority vote to become the Region's Northern District Vice President while Destiny fell short but expressed how she valued the experience. She is "looking forward to running for Regional Office again next year."

LCC chapter members were among more than fifty honor students representing community college Phi Theta Kappa chapters from around the New Mexico Region. Students participated in learning, leadership, service and scholarship activities and had opportunities to network with members and advisors from different chapters. Students received training on a variety of Phi Theta Kappa programs to aid in developing and establishing their chapter goals. A session about gaining tips and tools in completing Honors In Action projects was also offered.

Beta Mu Nu Chapter advisors, Cindy Armijo and Dr. Twila Quintana, along with chapter officers Destiny Torres and Shalena Bailey, will be attending and competing for both chapter and individual International Hallmark Awards at the 92nd Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Orlando, Fla. from April 7-10.

Luna lights...

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providing light for our travels. As you once, or on many occasions, trusted the light of the full moon during your evening journey, it is also important to trust the light of the moon that radiates from our institution. As an employee, it is important to trust the process if an issue arises and involves you. As a student, it is important to trust the process if there is disruption on your trek to completing a course of study or a degree. We have worked through so many of the obstacles to provide the mechanisms and safeguards within the process so equity and justice would prevail and issues that block a successful educational journey are properly addressed and hopefully removed.

Ah, you may say to yourself, yeah right! Han Yongun said, "Great doubt will eventually lead to great awakening." One reason why we doubt so much is because we often refer back to our memories, past experiences and sometimes perceptions of others because of the way they look, talk or act and equate that to a bad experience with someone of similar traits. But, through this doubt, we must also remain open to new experiences, renewed levels of trust and growing in faith and wisdom, not just for the sake of others but for our own well being. Happiness creates a true balance that greatly enhances our ability to co-exist with others in harmony and at never before imagined levels of productivity.

While we all have a different concept of happiness, it is important that we reflect upon our experiences, beliefs and health to figure out whether or not we truly are happy. Those who have gained a lot of wisdom by walking the earth for many years and have meditated greatly

say that happiness is finding peace within. While others who have suffered a lot or witnessed suffering in their lives find that the little things in life bring about true happiness. Regardless, like plants, we need water, sun, moonlight, and love to grow and bloom to our full potential. All living things need these basics for survival!

So, let's put the pieces of this grand puzzle together. First of all, happiness can be found if we choose to pursue it. To stay happy we must do the things we like to do. While we may think those things that make us happy are not at work or in the classroom and we look forward to doing things we enjoy after work or class, that's okay. But, to make life better, it behooves us to include a little of what we really like to do in every part of our lives!

If we include the can-do attitude in our lives and open our minds to love to learn and work, *the jobs will come!* Truly, the word is getting out that LCC is offering rigorous and exciting vocational and academic programs; entrepreneurs are inquiring about our student population and considering locating a part of their company in our service area. I recently met with an owner of a green energy company and she said, "I'm the happiest person in the room." Throughout the meeting I observed her speech, actions and confidence. At the end of the meeting, I was convinced; she knew what she was talking about, exuded a high level of confidence and knew she would succeed. Her confidence was contagious and I thought to myself, I want our students to gain the same happiness. I believe those who attend Luna Community College can gain happiness by trusting in the light we give to guide them along their journey.

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Pilot Assessment Program Rubric

Objective	Assessment Method	Accountability
Evaluate Proficiency In College Algebra	Standard Examination Math 180	Dr. Andrew Feldman SMET Faculty
Evaluate Proficiency In College Writing	COMPASS e-write (Random Selection)	Mr. Eloy Garcia ACCESS Center
Evaluate CORE Proficiencies	ETS Proficiency Profile Test (Random Selection)	Dr. Vidal Martinez ACCESS Center

For further information pertaining to LCC's pathway for re-accreditation or for assessment information, please visit LCC web site at www.luna.edu or email Dr. Martinez at vmartinez@luna.edu