

The Luna Light



"The People's College"
Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America

Volume 2 Issue 44

November 16-November 22

Luna Community College students endure summer heat for fire science



Luna Community College Fire Science faculty members Rodney Sauter and Lawrence Montoya issue certificates in firefighting to their students. Pictured (l-r) are Sauter, Lucas Duran, Sebastian Flores, Alice Sena and Montoya.

During the heat of summer 2009, five students completed the first introduction to firefighting class offered through Luna Community College's

recently created Fire Science Program. For eight weeks, the students brought their textbooks and turnout gear to class. Following common fireground

practice, signing in at the beginning of each class using "accountability tags" quickly became routine.

Students soon learned to react instantly to the tone that could sound at any time during a class lecture indicating it was time for students to don their heavy fire-fighting gear. In the course of eight weeks, they became adept at doing this in a minute or less, meeting the national standard.

Through lectures and discussions, students learned that firefighting is definitely more than simply "putting the wet stuff on the red stuff."

By studying the science of fire behavior, they discussed how to read smoke, how to look for evidence of current and anticipated fire behavior, and how to use such knowledge to keep themselves and team members safe while performing in the hazardous realm of structural firefighting. They put their knowledge to practice while performing such skills as search-and-rescue in simulated fire conditions,

Continued on page 4



Luna Community College Student Senator Stephani Dominguez (left) gives a cup of hot chocolate to fellow student Nicole Gutierrez during a student government sponsored event.

SkillsUSA Club to participate in Luminaria Drive

Members of SkillsUSA Automotive Club will be giving out hot chocolate and hot apple cider during the LCC Luminaria Drive on Dec. 5.

Donations during this time will be greatly appreciated. Proceeds will go to helping members travel to the state competition in Albuquerque.

Olson-Smith likes the support her department provides, but would like to see more unity throughout the college

Name: Susan Olson-Smith (got married Aug. 28)

Position: Nursing Faculty

How many years at LCC (what year did you start)? I started August, 2001 so I have been here eight years

Favorite food and why? Fresh salads. Reminds me of home because my mother always had a garden. It is my comfort food.

Favorite hobby and why? I play the flute as it relaxes me.

Favorite TV show and why? CSI as I often assign it to my students for medical terminology.

Where would you like to see yourself five years from now? In five years I would like to have more time to myself.

What do you like best about LCC?

I really like how everyone works and supports each other. In nursing we encourage each other, cry with each other and celebrate with each other. It's more like having great friends than just working.

What do you like least about LCC and what would you offer as a solution? Each department feeling like they are on their own when we all



Susan Olson-Smith, who has been at Luna Community College for eight years, recently got married.

should be working together for the betterment of the students. I would like to see more interdepartmental relationships which I know it is hard when we have so many adjunct instructors. Maybe some more time to share with each other.

What is your greatest strength? I love to teach and make learning fun

for the students. I am willing to try different methods to involve the students in their learning making them active participants in the process. I like people.

LCC:
“The People’s College”

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

“How far you go in life depends on you being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these,”—George Washington Carver

Meet your Rough Riders



Shelby Burbank

Name: Shelby Burbank
Position: Pitcher/infielder
Major: Liberal arts
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Fort Defiance
High School: Window Rock High
Previous college or high school: Window Rock High
Parents and family: Elvena Mitchell, mother; Shane Wilson, brother; Stephanie Burbank, sister; September Etsitty, sister.
What are your interests? Psychology, school, softball and more softball.

College or high school hon-

ors: Navajo Times All-Area all-star in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008; Arizona All-State Tournament Team in 2008; All-Region all-star in 2007 and 2008; best offensive player award in 2007; best defensive award in 2008; State Tournament honorable mention team in 2007.

Plans after graduation? To stay in school and obtain a Ph.D. in psychology.

Whom do you admire the most and why? I admire anyone who has ever pulled themselves through hard times and pushed themselves past anything they thought was impossible.



George Dellos

Name: George Dellos
Nickname: Dallas
Position: Utility
Major: Criminal justice
Classification: Freshman
Hometown: Dallas
High School: North Mesquite High
Previous college or high school: North Mesquite
Parents and family: Mary Dellos, mother; David Dellos, father.
What are your interests? Sports, music and photog-

Name: Nick Chavez
Nickname: Chavo
Position: Pitcher
Major: Business/accounting
Classification: Sophomore
Hometown: Moriarty, N.M.
High School: Moriarty High
Previous college or high school: Luna CC
Parents and family: Manuel and Beth Chavez, parents.
What are your interests? Baseball and cars.
College or high school honors: First-team all-state second baseman junior and senior year; four-year varsity letterman.

Plans after graduation? Continue a baseball career.

Favorite pro athlete: C.C. Sabathia and Roger Clemens.

Whom do you admire the most and why? My parents because they have taught me how to be a mature student and adult.



Nick Chavez

raphy.

Plans after graduation? Photography

Whom do you admire the most and why? My parents, because they are always there supporting me.

LCC:
**“The People’s
 College”**

Fire science...

Continued from page 1

placing, raising, and climbing fire service ladders, and deploying and using hose lines. During such practical exercises in the summer heat, students learned first-hand the importance of firefighter rehabilitation which they had read about and discussed in class.

By the end of the tiring yet rewarding eight weeks, high school students Sebastian Flores (West Las Vegas High School and volunteer at Cabo Lucero Volunteer Fire Department), Marcos Hererra (Robertson High School and Las Vegas Fire Department Explorer), and Caleb

Marquez (West Las Vegas High School and Las Vegas Fire Department Explorer) earned both high school and college credits for their dedicated efforts. Lucas Duran (volunteer at Sapello-Rociada Volunteer Fire Department) and Alice Sena (volunteer at Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department) earned a certificate from the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in addition to their four college credits. Plans are in the works to offer Introduction to Firefighting again in the future. In the meantime, check the LCC schedule for other fire science course offerings.



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

***Donations may be dropped off at the
ACCESS Center
from***

November 2nd thru November 20th

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

Distributions will be on a first come first serve basis

Call Melissa Lopez at 454-5357 for further information



Luna Community College Student Government met last week. Pictured clockwise are: Miguel Montoya (Denver Broncos jersey), Stefani Dominguez, Maria Gallardo, Naomi Ortiz, Ben Casey Encinias and Jennifer Himes.

LCC:
"The
People's
College"

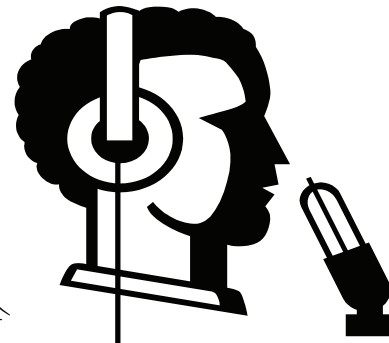
GET PAID TO TALK



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Have you ever wondered how people get started recording....

TV Commercials, Audio Books, Radio Commercials, Documentaries, Animation, Voice Mail Systems, Movie Trailers and more?



Whether you're just curious about Voice Overs or considering Voice Work professionally, this single-evening class is a great place to start!

You'll learn: what a voice over is * how to create a demo * what voice-types are in demand * students will have the chance to record a commercial script under the direction of VoiceCoaches.

LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2009
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER, LECTURE HALL
6:30-9:00 pm
Call LCC @ 454-5311, or @ 800-588-7232, ext. 1204

Olympic Gold Medalist Trent Dimas to LCC students: make the right choices

If Trent Dimas would have listened to negativity, he would have never become an Olympic Gold Medalist.

Dimas, who won a gold medal in the horizontal bar in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, was in town last week to help his dad work on a brick laying project. Ted Dimas Sr., who works and lives in northern New Mexico, spends some of his time these days restoring the historic homes in Las Vegas.

Although Dimas has both a degree from Columbia University in New York City and a juris doctorate from the University of New Mexico's School of Law, he remains well grounded and is not afraid to get his hands dirty when working alongside his father. On this particular sunny November day, Dimas said he liked to think of himself as a third generation bricklayer, although he noted he didn't quite have the



Trent Dimas raises his hands after he won a gold medal in the 1992 Olympics.

expertise his dad has or that his grandfather had. That said, Dimas expressed a particular sense of satisfaction that comes by working with his hands, "There's something special about standing back and looking at a stone wall you helped build. It's not an intangible accomplishment, and I like that kind of experience."

Dimas, a graduate of Eldorado High School in Albuquerque, is believed to be the only Hispanic American to win an Olympic Gold Medal in the sport of gymnastics. Dimas credits much of his athletic success to having a clear vision of what he wanted to do in gymnastics and stated: "Almost anything can be accomplished if you have a clear vision of where it is you want to go or what you want to do. Stay positive. Because others tend to dwell on what they believe to be impossible and might project their beliefs onto you. Just don't let it stick." Dimas went on to add that he believed nearly any goal could be accomplished with the right formula and a pinpointed focus.



Olympic Gold Medalist Trent Dimas is pictured here with his dad Ted. He says that laying bricks with his dad brings him a sense of satisfaction. Dimas won his gold in the horizontal bar.

"Part of that formula is making the right choices, choices that will lead you in a direction that is forward," said Dimas.

Dimas cites his Olympic experience: "I trained 17 years for a 30 second performance on the horizontal bar, so my goals had to be specific. I knew I wanted to be in the Olympic Games, that was my goal. The decisions I made were to surround myself with the best possible people to help me attain that goal... focusing on gymnastics and staying away from distractions was key." However, Dimas is careful to include that not every experience along the way was good and that even bad experiences could be helpful, "such a high percentage of my athletic career was steeped in mistakes or 'not winning' but failure in most cases is a great teaching tool."

"Each time I made a mistake and did not repeat it, I learned something," said Dimas.

Finally, it is critical to love what you do and to do it for the right reasons.

"If you really love what you do, it's truly not work," said Dimas.

So very late on an August night in 1992 at the Paulo Sant Jordi arena in Barcelona, Spain, he performed to the best of his ability knowing his choices, right ones and wrong ones, would influence the final outcome. Dimas became the first American to win an Olympic Gold Medal in a non-boycotted Olympics in 60 years, and the first gymnast in modern history to do so on foreign soil. His score? Not perfect, but at a 9.875, it was enough.

LCC students say what they are grateful for

I have asked my students to reflect this month on what they are grateful for. The following are a few examples of what LCC students are appreciative of and would like to share their thoughts with you. They are very touching and some humbling. I think we should be especially grateful for them, for they have the spirit and strength of mind to go beyond their goals. They are why we are here. Personally, I have a great group of students this semester, as with every semester, that I am thankful for and I wish them all the very best. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!! —**Jacqueline Hampleman, LCC faculty member**

I am grateful to have my family around who support me through college. I am grateful that my parents gave me the courage to go to college after high school because I did not do so well in high school. When it came to my mid-term grades here at Luna, my parents were surprisingly happy. They asked me if I was cheating or paying my teachers off. I laughed and just replied that I have great teachers, and they help me understand what I need to know. I am grateful to have teachers that care and a brain that works wonderfully. I hope to shock my parents once again with my final grades.—Gabby

I'm thankful for the education that I can receive both here at LCC and Pecos. I appreciate the teachers that have the time and patience to sit with me. I am thankful for the support that I receive from my home and my teachers along with the technology they supply me with, and the knowledge they have to pass down.—Anonymous

I am thankful for my family. My family is very important to me. They are all I have. I have been blessed with a big family, and without them, life for me would not be exciting or fun. My family is crazy, loud, funny, and adventurous. They know how to throw a party that is amazing! I thank God for my family. I do not know what I would do without them.—Anonymous

I am thankful for my amazing husband and children. They are the definition of family. I am so blessed to have them in my life. They are always there for me through the ups and downs. No matter what challenges we face, we stick together, and for that I am thankful.—Landis

What I am most thankful for is my family. My family has and will always be supportive of me. Family, to me, is a lot because without family I wouldn't be here at Luna making something out of my life. Now that I have a family of my own, they are still very supportive. Without my son and girlfriend, I would probably still be in trouble all the time.—Anonymous

I am thankful to have my family close to me. Whenever I need them, they are there. If it wasn't for my family convincing me and helping me financially, I proba-

bly wouldn't be getting a college education. Out of everything in life, that is what I am most thankful for.—Nicolas

I am thankful for my mother. Even though my mom can be tough at times, I wouldn't have anything without that woman. My mom has helped me get a car, my own home, and she even helps me with things for my son. I know my mom isn't rich, but she still helps me out of the kindness of her heart. That's what makes me love her.—Anonymous

I am thankful for many things. The first and most important thing that I'm thankful for is my family and friends. I'm thankful for my good health and for the good health of the people that I care about and know. Another thing that I'm thankful for is life. I'm glad that I can wake up everyday and come to school and spend time with friends and family.—Bradley

I am thankful for my mother. Even though my mom can be tough at times, I wouldn't have anything without that woman. My mom has helped me get a car, my own home, and she even helps me with things for my son. I know my mom isn't rich, but she still helps me out of the kindness of her heart. That's what makes me love her.—Anonymous

I am most thankful for my family. Without my family, I don't know where I'd be today as a person. First, my daughters have shown me how to care and put others before myself. Second, my parents have shown me to be the person I am today. Last, my siblings have given me support and guidance.—Anonymous

I am thankful for being able to attend Luna Community College. Many people here at Luna have helped me. When I first started, I was very sick and I was going to quit school. Thanks to Veronica Serna, I didn't quit. She inspired me to keep coming to school and not give up. Because of her, I'm still here today.—Marcella

I am thankful to have both my parents and my sister. I am also thankful that I am able to attend college and play baseball. Go Rough Riders!!!—Martin Morales

I am thankful for having both of my parents together still. Without them pushing me to do my best, I probably wouldn't be here today. I'm glad nothing in the past has messed anything up.—Anonymous

I am thankful for my life. I am thankful for my family who always support me. I am thankful for my friends because I have a good group of friends I can depend on. Most of all, I am thankful to be alive and well.—Anonymous

Wow! Well, I live a very good life and I'm thankful for every bit of it. My mom does everything she can for me. Without her I don't know where I would be. My family – I love them all. They support me right or wrong no matter what I do. I am thankful for everything I have and love. I plan on staying on the right track.—Anonymous



Luna Community College faculty and staff meet with New Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Chairman Peter Manthei (third from the right) last week. The SLOA Committee is the official committee that represents the institution in student assessment. The committee consists of representatives of both staff and faculty of academic and student services.


Luna CC begins inclement weather phone tree

In an effort to get more information out when school is being cancelled or postponed due to inclement weather, Luna Community College has started a phone tree.

Supervisors are encouraged to meet with their employees to make sure they are on the same page on the phone tree. Everyone is encouraged to listen to their local radio and television stations to get more information on cancellations or delays. You can also get information from the LCC Website at www.luna.edu.

“The Luna Community College phone tree can be successful if people call and if people answer. Relaying and forwarding information is the key,” said Jesse Gallegos, a member of the LCC Inclement Weather Committee.

Please see the Inclement Weather Media Sources chart at the bottom of this page for more information.



Inclement Weather Media Sources

Please reference these area media sources
for up to date information




Local Radio Stations


- KFUN - (505) 425-6766 Las Vegas**
- KLVF - (505) 425-6766 Las Vegas**
- KNMX - (505) 425-3555 Las Vegas**
- KMDZ - (505) 426-1967 Las Vegas**
- KRTH - (575) 445-3652 Raton**
- KSSR - (575) 472-3752 Santa Rosa**
- Que Suave - (505)989-7441 Santa Fe**
- KCRT - (719) 846-3355 Trinidad, CO**



www.luna.edu
(505) 454-2500

Local Television Stations



mfp 12.11.09



Toll-Free 877-427-2956 ♦ Toll-Free Fax 866-427-8223

November 9, 2009

Dr. Pete Campos, President
Luna Community College
366 Luna Drive
Las Vegas, NM 87701

Dear Dr. Campos:

On October 30, 2009, we completed the first Health Care Seminar program at Luna Community College (LCC). At a recent national conference in Orlando, Florida, in which I was a presenter, I was told that this was the first program of its kind to be offered in the United States.

The Health Care Seminar focuses on five modules of correctional health care training based on best practices and national accreditation standards. This partnership program at LCC could not have been possible without the leadership and vision of Warden Patrick Snedeker and Mary Ward, Vice President for Student Services, as well as the support and approval of your Board of Directors, the County Manager and the San Miguel County Commissioners.

Therefore, I would like to thank you and your staff, especially Mary Ward for all her hard work and commitment; Mr. Ernest R. Encinias, LRC Media Technician, for his assistance in the visual and IT systems; and also Mr. Paul Sandoval, Food Services Manager, for his personal attention to the wonderful food served in the cafeteria for the students.

We look forward to the continued partnership and growth of this program.

Sincerely,

Rita Torres, President

L
U
N
A

C
O
M
M
U
N
I
T
Y

C
O
L
L
E
G
E

Every trustee and employee counts

By Dr. Pete Campos/LCC President

Each and every Luna Community College trustee and employee brings special experiences, education, commitment and passion with them to support student success. During these tough economic times it is imperative we cultivate our human capital and collectively set the bar high to achieve the academic, athletic and extra-curricular goals we have set for our students.

Not a single one of us can do it alone! It is going to take all of us working together, trusting in each other and sharing in the sacrifice to meet the educational objectives our students expect and deserve.

By nature, people are motivated to do what is in their best interest. You've heard it said, "What's in it for me?" Well, think about it this way, "We need our jobs to provide for our families, so let's focus on our jobs to provide for positive student outcomes." By thinking about it this way, there is something in it for us, but it is also a win-win for the students we serve.

For most people, it is not just about compensation. Rather, it is about self starting, personal accomplishment and experiencing the tangible satisfaction of witnessing the delight of others. What do I mean? We have chosen to work at Luna Community College because the mission here is to educate students. That translates into our trustees and employees making a conscious decision to meet the needs of students whether it is to provide them with vocational training, clean classrooms or implementing school policies that provide student equality and opportunity.

From our trustees to every employee, creating and following disciplinary guidelines is instrumental to foster a work environment that is

productive. While we may wait for instruction to proceed with our next project; we must also be motivated to take on our work responsibilities with enthusiasm, energy, professionalism and self confidence. Deep down inside we know that our work ethic is noticed and people's perception of our position in the work place may not always be recognized but it is duly noted. You've heard the phrase, "she's smart and can produce accurate financials – not every college has an internal expert that can do that"! Thank you Terri Mares for what you have done for students throughout the years here at Luna Community College.

For most people, it is not just about compensation. Rather, it is about self starting, personal accomplishment and experiencing the tangible satisfaction of witnessing the delight of others.

Many experts have noted what motivates good employees is the ability to see projects through to their completion. Although the project may be under the direction of one person, all those involved in the workflow should have a shared investment in the finished product. Although we may not need the recognition for a completed project or because it is our job, it is important to un-

conditionally and wholeheartedly give credit to where it is due.

Many studies have concluded that time management and prioritization of tasks help with job productivity but being happy at work is the number one factor when it comes to an employee enjoying their work assignment, communicating well with and respecting their co-workers, supporting the mission of the institution and creating customer satisfaction.

As we move forward together; let's work smarter and more efficient. When we consistently practice the most effective ways to educate and serve students, we'll see the fruits of our labor and truly look forward to coming to work. **Be Happy.**



A 1940 Ford Sedan was recently painted in Hotrod Orange Suede. This car belongs to Charlie Gutierrez a part-time student and part-time faculty member with Luna Community College who has been working on this project for the last few semesters. He is almost halfway through a complete Hot Rod restoration. Paint was mixed using the Collision Repair Paint Mixing System to create this custom color.

Also seen here are students Ricardo Baca and Gary Gamertsfelder who assisted him in the painting process. Students in the Collision Repair program can learn autobody repair and also mix and create your own custom paint job. For further information, you may contact Anthony Baca, Collision Repair Instructor at 505-454-2591 or visit our website at www.luna.edu.