

# The Luna Light



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

Volume 2 Issue 21

June 15-June 21

## Luna Community College’s enhancing environment important to student success

By Mary Ward

LCC Vice-President of Student Services

Keeping students in school seems harder than it should be. Academic preparedness, culture shock, commitment to educational goals, social and academic integration, and financial/income assistance are only a few of the challenges our students face. Our ability to keep students in school is an important daily task on our campus. Losing students, from an economic standpoint is bad business. Every student “lost” represents a financial loss for institutions. Institutions miss out on tuition and fees from the student, income from books and services, housing, and other revenue streams.

Of course, losses due to student attrition aren’t just realized on the institutional side. Students lose too. Students who drop out of the educational pipeline lose their initial fiscal investment and those who leave before completion of the program are more likely



LCC sponsored barbeques such as this one enhances student life at the college.

to hold significant debt loan and be less likely to repay those loans. Thus, they are prone to loan default. But most importantly, students lose out on time. Students who leave school often lose valuable “life” time. We understand

that education has an opportunity cost to it, but we often forget that the cost is only repaid to those who complete their studies, not those who drop out.

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## Garcia continues to recruit New Mexico players



LCC student-athlete Amanda Diaz waits for the ball at third base. Diaz was the first-ever softball player to sign at the college.

have 12 returning players. The last try-out was on June 13.

By June 15, I will have recruited 24 scholarship players and will have additional walk-ons to add to the Luna Community College softball team. I have recruited 18 New Mexico student-athletes and signed one from Arizona.

I have also started to work on the fall and spring schedule. So far I have eight dates for the fall and four dates in the spring scheduled. I have contacted 15 teams from the states of Colorado, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. I have not heard back to schedule games.—*Dawnette Garcia, LCC softball coach*

As of June 9, 2009 I have successfully recruited seven incoming freshman and

# Terri Mares likes opportunity and mission of LCC, but not the politics



**Name:** Terri Mares

**Position:** Controller

**How many years at LCC (what year did you start)?** I was first employed at LCC (then LVTI) in 1984. I left in 1988 to work at Wagon Mound Public Schools, and I returned in 1999.

**Favorite food and why?** Chili, red or green—It goes with and improves the flavor of so many other foods such as eggs, meats, potatoes, veggies, jellies and even candy.

**Favorite hobby and why?** Woodworking. I enjoy making furniture, choosing and applying the finishes, and sometimes I paint flowers, animals or designs on the piece. I have made many pieces for family members, charities, and for our home.

**Favorite TV show and why?** NCIS—I love the action, the humor and the dynamics between the characters.

**Where would you like to see yourself five years from now?** Retired, volunteering for various community/church events, helping on the ranch, playing with our grandchildren, and so on...

**What do you like best about LCC?** The people I work with, my job, the opportunities, and the mission of the college.

**What do you like least about LCC?** The politics and personal agendas that get in the way of us fulfilling the mission of the college; they may prevent us from becoming one of the greatest places to receive an education in the state, and perhaps, the nation.

**What is your greatest strength?** I genuinely like people.

Terri Mares says that she genuinely likes people.

*Anyone wishing to nominate an LCC employee to be featured in this section should call Jesse Gallegos at 454-2510 or e-mail him at [jagallegos@luma.edu](mailto:jagallegos@luma.edu).*

## Crisis intervention training to be held at LCC on June 15-16

A crisis intervention training will be held at the Luna Community College Allied Health Building on Monday June 15 through Tuesday, June 16.

This certified course for sworn officers is offered to introduce theory and practice in dealing with individuals with mental illness that are in crisis and are potentially dangerous to themselves and others. Officer and client safety are paramount in this training that will provide introduction to recognition of symptoms, medications, the law and evidence based de-escalation techniques with live actor role plays and coaching by experienced officers. Staff from New Mexico State University will conduct this training.

To register for this training or for further information please contact Kristie Tapia at 505-425-9770 or 505-617-5571 or via email at

[msg@desertgate.com](mailto:msg@desertgate.com).

AHEC is co-sponsoring the training along with the Mora/San Miguel/Guadalupe (MSG) Behavioral Health Collaborative.

The simulation exercises (role play) will begin on Tuesday, June 16 at approximately 11 a.m. at the Allied Health Parking Lot.

**Elaine Luna (pictured) is LCC's Area Health Education Director. She can be reached at 454-2585.**



## Summer 2009 Enrollment

Day 9

Student Head Count

Student Credit Hours

2009	2008
900	807

2009	2008
4,145	3,726

# Gerald P. Ortega Wellness Center

**Hours:** Monday –Thursday 7 a.m.-8p.m. Friday 7a.m.-6p.m.

LCC Students free with valid student ID

**Charge:** Community Members **\$34.00** per semester Senior Citizens **\$28.00** per semester

Summer Semester begins May 11-July 2 4

Fall Semester begins July 27<sup>th</sup>-Dec 5<sup>th</sup>

Members will have to sign up for PE class 112 Physical Fitness and or PE 113 Weight Training.

## One credit hour course

Self paced class. You work out at your own convenience with weight machines, free weights, and cardio equipment. Student/members will log in 20 hours during the semester. Training is available upon request of any member or student.

## CLASSES OFFERED:

- Physical Fitness (PE 112)
- Weight training (PE 113)
- Step Aerobics (PE 116)
- Kick boxing and Step Aerobics (PE 116)
- Self Defense Karate (PE138)
- Self Defense Karate for Your (Com 620)
- Boxing/Kickboxing Techniques (Com 685)
- Yoga (PE 135)

Contact Information:

Dawnette Garcia, Wellness Manager  
505-425-8767

# LCC Student Government process



LCC employees Annette Weinkauf and Jennifer Sanchez enjoy an LCC Student Government activity last week.

## By Cindy Branch/LCC Student Government Advisor

As stated in the Constitution of the Associated Students of Luna Community College in Article VI, executive officers and senators shall be elected at large. Executive officers must be full-time students with an accumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better. Senators must be registered for at least six hours and have an accumulative GPA of 2.0 or better. Both must have a declared major at the time of declaration. There are four executive member positions and 10 senator positions. We hope to publicize more, so that we can fill all positions. The activities this year have prompted attention to election.

A declaration petition can be picked up by the student government advisor. Elections will be done in the fall semester. A date will be set

at the first meeting of this semester. In the past election there were approximately 22 voters. The year before there was more participants because we held elections electronically. Student government plans to meet with IT and hold electronic elections, so that we can bring up the numbers.

Below is a list of members for 2008-2009.

- President Thurston Vellez-True
- Vice President/Secretary Naomi Ortiz
- Treasurer Earl Gonzales
- Senator Aggie Bachicha
- Senator James F. Gallegos
- Senator Ronald Gutierrez
- Senator William W. Wilson.

Many of these students have graduated. Naomi Ortiz will be taking responsibilities of president during the summer and elections because our previous president is not in school anymore and has relocated. The summer committee consists of Naomi Ortiz, Earl Gonzales, Aggie Bachicha, James Gallegos, and Ronald Gutierrez all on a voluntary basis.

Naomi Ortiz will be the main contact and can be reached at 429-1767.

## 2008-2009 Activities

Inauguration Banquet	September
Turkey Food Drive	October-November
Christmas Santa Pictures	December
Senior Center Activities (Arts & Crafts)	December
Valentine's Day Pictures	February
*Field Day/BBQ-	April
Ice Cream Social/Volleyball	June
Pizza Party/Frisbees	June
Weekly Sno-Cone Socials	July

\*raised \$140 for foundation

# LCC enhancing environment...

Continued from page 1

There is a significant motivation for institutions and students to stay the course. Unfortunately, only less than half of the freshman students who initiate their studies leave with a degree in hand. The path to increasing student retention on campus is long and hard.

The research could not be clearer. Students who find support for their learning, receive frequent feedback about their learning, and are more actively involved in their learning are more likely to learn and to stay in school. Unfortunately, it remains the case that most first year students experience learning as isolated learners whose learning is disconnected from that of others. They continue to engage in a solo manner and in what remains a largely show-and-tell learning environment. Their experience of learning is very much an environment where faculty lecture and there is very little active student participation.

A major way in which Luna Community College promotes student retention is by connecting students to student development and co-curricular programs and activities. The importance of student involvement in campus life for student retention is documented by demonstrating that students who are socially integrated or involved in campus life and feel they are a part of the campus community, are more likely to persist to graduation. Luna Community College is well positioned to foster student persistence/retention by continuing to strengthen initiatives where students can be more directly involved with staff, faculty, advisors, tutors, clubs, organizations, and peers. Luna Community College staff are committed to take certain risks to ensure student success among today's student population by creating an environment where students find themselves in a supportive and enriching environment in order to satisfy their educational experiences and successes.

## Employee policies and procedures being reviewed

By Lawrence Quintana  
Human Resource Director

Luna Community College employee policies and procedures are being reviewed by counsel and should be ready for the second employee review prior to presentation to the LCC Board of Trustees. Some employees have asked why is Luna Community College conducting a policy revision? The answer is simple and is part of the constant human resource development process. Employee policies and procedures should support the organizational mission and strategy, enhance employee flexibility to meet changing educational

conditions, meet changing regulatory requirements, increase productivity and the quality of education outcomes, lower employee performance deficiencies, promote professional and personal development, increase employee commitment toward student first methodology, and lower employee turnover and absenteeism.

Luna Community College employee policies and procedures are very important to guiding the LCC development and culture. LCC administration understands that LCC culture consists of four basic functions: 1. Provides our employees with identity. 2.

Facilitates collective commitment. 3. Promotes system stability. 4. Shapes positive behavior by helping employees make sense of their surroundings and purpose.

LCC has developed a strong culture over the past year, this has most employees sharing in similar values and working and striving toward the same goals. The LCC family has a strong culture and is characterized by visionary leadership, employees who have the same sense of the LCC mission, and are willing to change educational needs to service our rural communities.

## Weekly Activities

*Monday, June 15, 2009*

- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Crisis Intervention/Law Enforcement Training (Allied Health – Classroom 9 & 11)
- 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. DWI Class (General Studies/Room 102B)

*Tuesday, June 16, 2009*

- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Crisis Intervention/Law Enforcement Training (Allied Health – Classroom 9 & 11)
- 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Assisting w/Medication Delivery Training(LRC/Lect. Hall)

*Wednesday, June 17, 2009*

- 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Private Practitioner Provider Training (Stud Serv/Conf. Rm)
- 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Assisting w/Medication Delivery Training(LRC/Lect. Hall)

- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. UNM Telehealth Ethics Consult. Training (BUS. /Rm. 101)

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Leadership Symposium (IPC/Cafeteria)
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Leadership Symposium (Allied Health/LO-1)

*Friday, June 19, 2009*

- 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Youth Baseball (Roughrider Field)

*Saturday, June 20, 2009*

- 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. C.N.A. Testing (Allied Health/N7&3)

*Sunday, June 21, 2009*

- No Activities Scheduled

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*Presented with the highest level of esteem  
for your 8 years of tireless commitment  
to unconditionally serve  
the educational needs of students at  
Luna Community College.  
Your unselfish contributions will not  
be forgotten and always be revered.*



Dan Romero



Jacob Charles Romero

January 28, 1986 - October 28, 2008

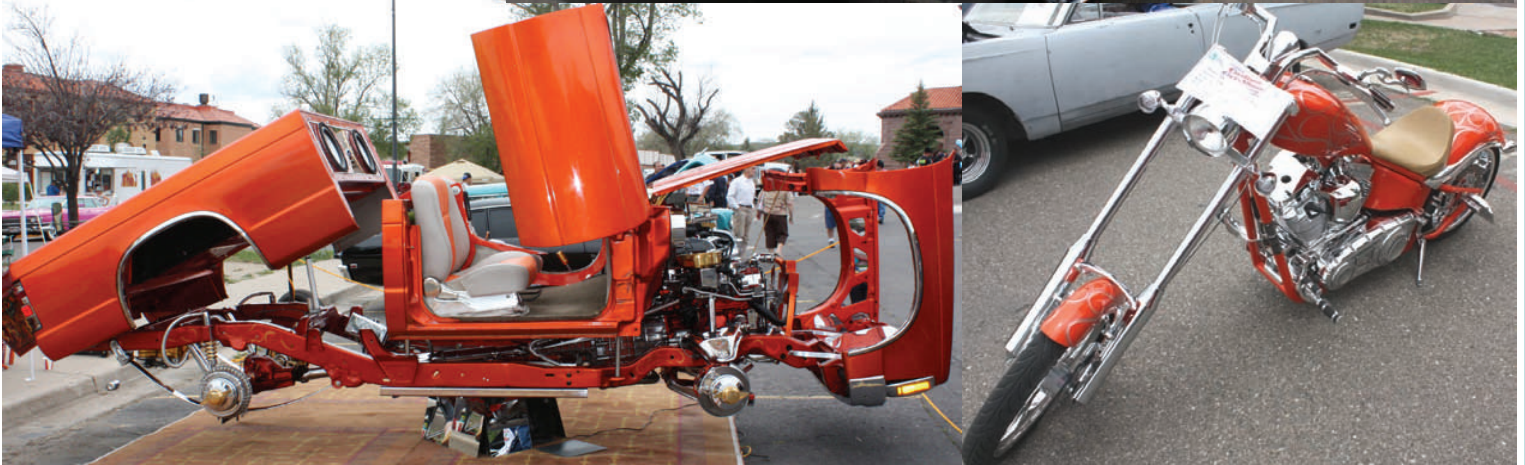
*Presented in fond memory of the many times you  
brought pride, laughter and bold energy into  
our lives. When times were tough,  
you encouraged us with hope.  
When we thought reaching new heights were  
not possible, you showed us that anything  
could be accomplished.  
Your love and zest for life will always  
be the example we will follow.*



*Presented  
On Behalf of  
The  
Luna Community College  
Family  
June 13, 2009*



# LCC Car Show breaks attendance record



LCC: "The People's College"

# Over 2,300 people estimated at event



There were 126 entries including vehicles from the 1920s to the current year.



The Luna Community College Student Activities Office along with the Highlands University Office of Campus Life co-sponsored the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Custom Car Show & Shine on Saturday, June 13 at the Felix Martinez Parking Lot.





Don Bustos is the SBDC Director



## Students!

Are you looking for on-the-job training? Are you seeking skills for a new career? Do you want to gain experience in your field of study? Do you want to gain college credit? If you answer yes to any of these questions, the LCC Small Business Internship Program can help.

### LCC – Connecting Students to the Workforce!

Luna Community College will “launch” a pilot program this fall called the Small Business Internship Program. The purpose of the program is to provide LCC students opportunities in workforce experience by applying educational skills and knowledge to meet the needs of the statewide workforce community.

#### Program Goals:

- Provide students access to business experience that could lead to gainful employment
- Involve students in community projects, collaborations, and partnerships
- Provide students an opportunity for a stipend salary contingent on available funding

#### Program Benefits:

- Classroom instruction is integrated with practical on-the-job experience
- Create future employment opportunities
- Students can make career decisions based on practical work experience.

If you want to participate in the Small Business Internship Program please contact Don Bustos at 505-454-2595 or [dbustos@luna.edu](mailto:dbustos@luna.edu) for further information.

## LCC Foundation Golf Tourney set for Aug. 22

The 2009 Luna Community College Foundation Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 at the Pendaries Golf Course in Rociada. A shotgun start is scheduled at 9 a.m.

A four-person team sponsor is \$1,000 or \$250 per individual. A hole sponsorship is \$250.

The entry fee covers green fees, a cart, and a prime rib dinner. All money raised will be used for scholarships.

For more information, call Tournament Co-Director Ernesto Salazar at 505-425-7584 or Theresa S. Vigil at 505-454-5367.

## Quote of the Week

“Take the attitude of a student...never know too much to learn something new,”—OG Mandino (1923-1996).

# LCC

## Foundation

### Scholarship Fund-raiser

Friday, August 28, 2009

Plaza Hotel

Reverse Drawing begins at 7:30 p.m.

## GRAND PRIZE

### \$5,000.00

Other Prizes Include:

First Ticket Drawn Wins

\$300.00

Every 50th Ticket Drawn Wins

\$100.00

The 100th Ticket Drawn Wins

\$200.00

For More Information Please Contact:

Theresa S. Vigil

P.O. Box 1926

Las Vegas, NM 87701

(505) 454-5367 or [tvigil@luna.edu](mailto:tvigil@luna.edu)

Toll Free: 1 (800) 588-7232 - Ext. #: 1019

Your \$100.00 Donation includes a Beef Brisket Dinner for two provided by The Plaza Hotel.

Dinner served from 6 p.m.—7:30 p.m.



The best way to predict the future is  
create it.



Where you need to be...

For information visit [www.luna.edu](http://www.luna.edu)

Early Registration for Fall 2009	June 1-August 14
Campus Closed 8am to 12 noon <u>only</u> for Faculty/Staff Training	August 11
Classes Begin	August 17
Last Day to Add Classes	August 24
Campus Closed—Labor Day	September 7
Deadline to Change from Audit to Credit	September 11
Midterm Week	October 5-10
Deadline to Change from Credit to Audit	October 16
Advisement Week	November 16-20
Early Registration for Spring 2010	Nov. 16 –Jan. 8
Last Day to Withdraw from Fall-term Classes	November 20*
Campus Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday	November 26-29
Final Examinations	Nov. 30– Dec. 4
Semester Ends	December 4
Campus Closed - Christmas Break	Dec. 21 - Jan.3

# Our expanding role makes sense

## Dr. Pete Campos/LCC President

Where has this year gone? Time has passed rapidly, staff has risen to the challenge of meeting their individual and collective educational responsibilities and most importantly, student needs have been met in a holistic way. I am very proud of the direction and high standards that our Board of Trustees set. They want our students to learn, be proficient in core and specialized fields of study and to succeed in life.

Taking the board's direction even further, we are fast becoming the post secondary institution of choice by area high school and post

secondary students because of the following reasons: A] our academic and vocational professors are highly credentialed and continue to improve their personal educational and experiential backgrounds; B] our core subject and degree offerings are the most affordable within the region; C] our student to teacher ratio is excellent, tutorial services are second to none and our mission to ensure student success is outstanding; D] our strong core offerings and two year degrees or program certificates lead to good paying jobs either through internships while students are attending class or earn the ability to transition immediately into the job

market once they graduate; and, E] we are frontrunners when it comes to dual credit and concurrent enrollment and solid post secondary freshman and sophomore level core courses.

*Students can't go wrong* when they choose Luna Community College for their education because their core classes are solid and can be transferred to any New Mexico college or university and their degrees will greatly assist them as they enter and compete in higher levels of education, a good career field or the military.



New Mexico Independent Community Colleges Director Danny Earp (right) met with Luna Community College President Dr. Pete Campos recently to develop a better understanding of Campos' plans for the future of LCC. They also discussed ways in which NMI CC might be of service to the college.

## Matt Martinez assists Luna Community College

Matt Martinez, owner of KNMX Radio Station and past chairman of the New Mexico Broadcasters Association, secured the set of KOAT TV for Luna Community College recently. In last week's Luna Light, it was reported that Ron Gonzales had obtained the set. Jesse Gallegos, editor of The Luna Light, apologizes for the incorrect information.