

The Luna Light



“The People’s College”

Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America

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State Legislature Special Edition

Luna CC and Phi Theta Kappa student Shalena Bailey honored at State Capitol

Luna Community College student Shalena Bailey was recently named to the New Mexico All-State Academic Team and now awaits selection notification from the nationally competitive All-USA Academic Team.

Bailey was recognized Friday, Feb. 6 during a ceremony at the State Capitol Roundhouse where legislators, two-year college presidents and top education officials acknowledged the students for their academic achievements and contributions to their communities. In addition to the recognition, she will receive a scholarship to attend any state university she chooses.

“It was a great honor to represent Luna Community College, Phi Theta Kappa and the nursing department. I am especially thankful for the support and encouragement I received from my Phi Theta Kappa Advisors, Cindy Armijo and Dr. Twila Quintana. I felt so privileged to have Dr. (Pete) Campos take time away from his busy legislative schedule to attend the ceremony and place the medallion over my head. I also want to thank Donna Flores-Medina, Mary Ward and Elaine Luna for attending the ceremony and supporting my academic achievements,” said Bailey.

A veteran of the United States Navy and mother of two

daughters, 5-year-old Briana and 4-year-old Olivia, Bailey will earn an Associate of Science degree in nursing from Luna Community College this spring. She intends to continue her education at the University of New Mexico.

“I consider myself fortunate to have received such an exceptional and valuable education from the nursing program here at Luna Community College. This program directly addresses the increased demands for quality health care services facing our community and communities throughout northern New Mexico,” said Bailey.



LCC student Shalena Bailey gets a medallion from LCC President Dr. Pete Campos at the State Capitol.

Continued on page 2



Luna Community College is proud to dedicate this edition of *The Luna Light* to the New Mexico Legislature. We would like to take this opportunity and thank each and every senator and representative for helping our college over the years. This is a photo of the front of our State Capitol, the only round State Capitol in the United States.

LCC student Shalena Bailey ...

Continued from page 1

LCC faculty member, Phi Theta Kappa Regional Coordinator and Honor Society Chapter Advisor Cindy Armijo said: "The All-State Academic Team gives us the opportunity to highlight the top students at our college. Not only is Shalena one of the top students in the nursing program, but she is also very active at the chapter and regional levels of Phi Theta Kappa. In fact, Shalena hopes to put Luna Community College and New Mexico on the Phi Theta Kappa International map by being the first regional member to compete for an inter-

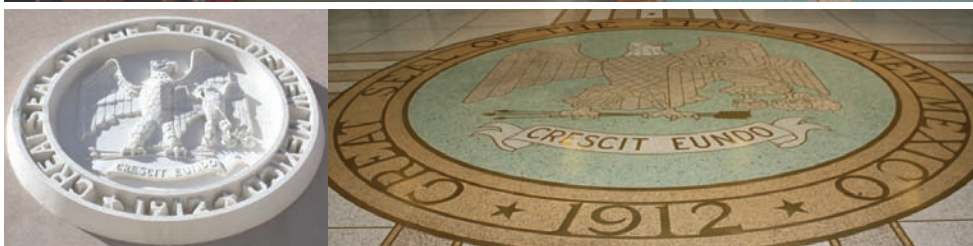
national officer position at the 91st Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Grapevine, Texas in April. The Beta Mu Nu Chapter and the New Mexico Region are very proud of Shalena's accomplishments."

The All-USA and All-State Academic Teams are sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, *USA TODAY*, the American Association of Community Colleges, New Mexico two-year college presidents, the New Mexico Association of Community Colleges and the New Mexico Association of Independent Community Colleges.

Luna CC's tribute to the state legislature



Luna CC's tribute to the state legislature



LCC: "The People's College"

LCC's tribute to the state legislature



Quote of the Week

"Thank you New Mexico Legislature,"— Jesse Gallegos, LCC Public Information Coordinator.

Students are key

Dr. Pete Campos/LCC President

The past eight months have been spent: reviewing, proposing and implementing policy upgrades; developing academic, vocational and athletic programs; strengthening human resources; closely monitoring our revenue sources and expenditures; laying out a strategic facilities plan that will keep us moving forward; and, promoting weekly campus activity through *The Luna Light*. This, and so much more is being done to attract students, keep them motivated to pursue a quality education and most importantly, provide them with a first-rate and rigorous education that will give them the background to enter or continue in the world of work with a good salary and prom-

ising career.

I have spent my life advocating for equal opportunity for students, businesspersons and our elders. Those who have followed my career know I take my work very seriously and will do everything possible to maintain a strong and relevant program of study with qualified teachers and support personnel and reasonable facilities and equipment to give students the best start in the world of work possible. Ultimately, by educating our youth, they turn out to be good business owners and employees and provide the moral and financial base to then care for our elderly. This cycle of life can only be made better if we believe in ourselves and each other.



Luna Community College: Building the foundation to better northeastern N.M.

**By Dr. Pete Campos
Luna Community
College President**

During the past eight months, the time I have spent as President, I have observed the Board of Trustees and the entire Luna staff coming together for a common goal. That focus has been to provide the best teaching and learning environment possible for young adults, adult learners and hobby enthusiasts.

It has taken a bold vision and straightforward decisions to solidify this direction. There has been much idea sharing, daily interaction and key adjustments in the way we deliver services to students that have brought us to where we are now.

We have initiated: policy changes; rigorous academic program development; efficient infrastructure and facility planning for ADA accessibility, replacement of outdated equipment, building remodeling and essential new construction; and, plans for more extensive outreach within our existing service area and if other areas not within our current service area wish to be served we will work closely with them to gain Higher Education Department and voter approval to provide strong academic and vocational educational programs.

Using the theme "Downtown Luna" we are improving our presence and services in every community we serve. Our main campus in Las Vegas is slated to be the home of the Luna Learning Center and a badly needed

vocational trades area remodel, El Valle is scheduled for a vocational trade center, Springer will have much needed improvements made to its center, Mora is scheduled to have a vocational trades facility built and equipped, vocational equipment upgrades are earmarked for Wagon Mound and a vocational trades facility and wellness center are scheduled for construction and equipping in Santa Rosa.

Memorandums of Understanding have already or soon will be entered into between community leaders and LCC to provide technology centers - used for on-line education - in the towns of Anton Chico and Watrous. The newly constructed library and community center constructed in these communities where these centers will be housed were paid for by almost \$700 thousand in direct legislative appropriations.

A key factor in our future success depends on the bond issue before our constituency. During my 19 years in the legislature and when I became President of LCC, I have heard and been told by leaders of the legislature, legislative finance committee and the higher education department that "we must help ourselves if we expect help from others to improve our facilities at Luna." I have also been told by Chief Executive Officers of major companies that we must have properly credentialed programs to train certifiable students before they will hire them for good



Several Luna Community College students will be attending the SkillsUSA State Conference from Wednesday, April 1 through Saturday, April 4 in Albuquerque. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers along with high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations including health occupations. Luna Community College students have traditionally done well at both the state and national competition. Pictured (top, l-r) are: Christina Crespin from Las Vegas, Earl Gonzales from Las Vegas, Diane Carrillo from Buena Vista and Adrienne Gallegos from Vallito de Piedra. Pictured (bottom, l-r) Ashley Jaramillo from Las Vegas, Tammy Archuleta from Romeroville, Julie Trambley from Mora, Kathy Maes from Las Vegas and Laura Hurtado from El Coruco.

paying jobs.

I have taken these recommendations to heart and worked closely with our board and staff to create the strategy that proves we can decide our educational and economic destiny.

On behalf of the Luna Community College Board of Trustees and valued staff, we are dedicated to deliver the best edu-

cational support and services possible to all students. We don't want people to leave our service areas to seek an education or jobs! So, we will do everything possible, with the help of our friends and families to make our college the best it can be and attract new job opportunities so our children can stay here at home.