

The Luna Light

Luna
Community
College

"The People's College"

Mission Statement: "Creating Opportunities for You!"

Volume 4, Issue 5

February 7, 2014

Luna CC Welding Program taking steps forward

The Luna Community College Welding Program has been upgrading curriculum and technology in efforts to keep up with the growing industry, says Luna Community College Vocational Director Gary Martinez, who has been overseeing the trades area for the last four years.

"Collobrately as a department with the help of interdepartmental faculty and staff, efforts have assisted in building up the trades programs to certification and national accreditation," says Martinez. "Furthermore, curriculum has been built to workforce and industry standards."

Currently there are 6,500 vacant jobs across the world for welders.

"We have had nine students over the course of the last three years earn their AWS (American Welders Society) Certificate," says LCC Welding Instructor Cory Moore. "Our program is nationally accredited. In addition to this, we are also NCCER (National Center for Construction and Educational Research) certified."

LCC student Frederick Romero says he has seen posi-

tive steps in the program.

"Overall, it's a great program with a lot of opportunity. I took it as something to fall back on," said Romero.

Perhaps one of the best stories to come out of LCC is former student Chaz Pilley.

"Chaz has worked in five states over the course of the last two years," says Moore. "He is making over \$100,000 a year. Once you leave this program, most of the students get certified and go straight into apprenticeships and journeyman's jobs. They keep climbing the ladder; there's good money in welding. Those that choose to can even get better jobs overseas. The oil industry is booming with welding jobs. Building a program is a process," says Moore.

And part of the process will be at the end of 2016, when the program is expected to have its renovation finished through a statewide general obligation bond and a Title V grant.

To read the full story, read Monday's Luna Light



Luna Community College and Las Vegas saw the effects of a winter storm that hit the area recently. This particular photo was taken at the upper entrance at the college at approximately 2 p.m. on Wednesday.