Fortitude, dedication equals success for Santa Rosa Satellite’s Nadine Wade

Bachelor’s, master’s from UNM next on list

Six years ago Nadine Wade walked into the Luna Community College Santa Rosa Satellite inquiring about GED classes. Last week, Wade submitted a petition to graduate with an associate’s in teacher education.

It took perseverance, dedication and fortitude, but for Wade it has all been worth it. And a two-year degree is not where it stops. Wade intends to enroll at the University of New Mexico and begin earning a bachelor’s. Wade has not ruled out on earning a master’s degree as well.

“When I first started college, I was kind of scared,” says Wade. “I don’t do well with a lot of people. The instructors at Luna have helped me out a lot. They have been very considerate every step of the way.”

Wade moved to Santa Rosa from Palm Springs before she graduated from high school.

“If I would still be living in California there would be no way I would have gone to college,” says Wade.

After earning her GED, Wade found out she had cervical cancer.

“I was treated for it and doctor’s told me I couldn’t have kids,” said Wade. “My boyfriend and I were thinking of adopting. In April, 2010 I found out I was pregnant.”

Her daughter Amillia will turn one later this month.

“She’s the best thing that ever happened to me,” says Wade. “Having her makes me want to continue to go to school.”

Wade began her education program in 2009 taking most of her classes online or via ITV.

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“I like Luna; instructors work with you,” says Wade. “They have always understood my circumstances; they didn’t hold it against me.”

Today Wade inches closer to her career dream—becoming an art teacher.

“I like drawing; I really enjoy it,” says Wade. “I want to have my own classroom and having art classes and offer art classes on the weekend. Eventually, I want to develop a portfolio and open an art gallery.”

Santa Rosa and Luna Community College may have just been the answer for Wade.

“Growing up for me was a little rough,” says Wade. “Coming here has changed my life dramatically. I’m doing things I never thought I was going to do. My family is so proud of what I’ve done.”

Wade says she has close to a 3.4 grade point average.

“Nadine is a classic example of a success story,” says longtime Santa Rosa Satellite Director Albert Campos. “You see a lot of people come and go. She took the initiative to finish what she started. She has been able to multi-task and succeed in completing the first part of her education.”

Wade knows that this is just the beginning.

“I’m very, very happy,” says Wade. “I’m happy for what I’ve been able to accomplish up to this point and I feel confident I can do anything I want to do. I won’t let anything stop me. No matter what happens in your life, do something for yourself.”

“They have always understood my circumstances; they didn’t hold it against me,”—LCC student Nadine Wade on instructors.

Luna Community College Auto Collision students Samson Vallejos and Earl Varela recently completed a custom paint job on a Harley Davidson motorcycle. LCC Auto Collision Instructor Anthony Baca had this to say of his students: “I am very proud of all our students; they are producing very high-quality professional jobs.”
When Antonio Varela runs, his lone companion is the wind.
The Pecos High senior is coming off back-to-back-to-back state championships in AA.
“I do a lot of training,” says Varela. “The past five years, every summer I push myself to the limit.”
Although he has received several offers from several colleges, Varela says he is leaning toward running in the Air Force.
Although Pecos is a small high school (in New Mexico there are five divisions), Varela is considered the second best runner in the entire state. Only Cleveland High’s Luis Martinez gets the nod over Varela.
Varela’s best time of the year was running 3.1 miles in 15:17.
“During the season I run anywhere from 50 to 60 miles a week,” says Varela. “I also watch what I eat and I don’t drink sodas. I drink mostly water.”
So why has Varela dominated running in the state for the last three seasons?
“It’s because of all the effort I put into it,” says Varela. “I also give a lot of credit to all my coaches.”
You can’t mention cross country in New Mexico without mentioning Varela and Pecos.

Pecos High Senior Antonio Varela has won the state cross country championship for three consecutive years. Several Pecos High students take classes at Luna Community College. They are bussed to campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Top 10 Reasons for Completing Community College

1. You’ll earn more! Students who complete their associate degree or certificate can expect to earn as much as $8,000 more per year and about $400,000 more in a lifetime than a high school graduate.¹

2. You’ll be prepared! People change jobs up to 10 times in their working lives — and when you are job-hunting, a college credential will always give you an edge.²

3. Credential holders also are more likely to retain jobs. Unemployment for community college graduates is typically 30 percent lower than for high school grads.³

4. You’ll encounter fewer barriers to transfer! Many state college systems have articulation agreements that guarantee transfer of community college credits when associate degree students enter state universities. You’ll save time and money by not having to repeat courses or take courses you did not know you needed.⁴

5. You’ll have the personal satisfaction of reaching your educational goal and having something tangible to show for it — something valued by employers, scholarship officials and transfer recruiters.

6. You’ll help reverse a national trend in the declining number of college graduates, and you’ll also open doors for your children. Children of college graduates are more likely to graduate themselves.⁵

7. You and your family’s health will improve. Research links greater educational attainment to longer life, healthful eating, exercising and avoiding risk factors. Better-educated people are quicker to change behaviors in response to new evidence. Better-educated people have higher incomes, making them more likely to have health insurance and live in safer neighborhoods with better access to recreational facilities and grocery stores.⁶

8. You will be more likely to promote environmental sustainability.⁷

9. You’ll be more likely to volunteer, vote, contribute to charity, serve on boards and run for office.⁸

10. You’ll be an educated, prepared and higher-paid employee, providing support for federal, state and local governments and helping the national workforce be competitive and productive in the global economy.⁹

Fiction: You can get a good job without finishing college.
Fact: 60 percent of jobs by 2020 will require a college credential.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 data
³ Internationally, College Graduates Fared Better During Recession, Chronicle of Higher Education, September 2010
⁴ The National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, American Association of Community Colleges, The National Articulation and Transfer Network
⁵ With Their Whole Lives Ahead of Them, A Public Agenda Report for The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
⁶ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Commission to Build a Healthier America
Attention LCC students

Please note: If students are asking you for a degree check to complete a Financial Aid Suspension Appeal, please include the following on the degree check print-out:

- Your signature
- The students anticipated date of graduation
- Highlight courses that the student still needs to take to complete their degree/certificate and also note which semester and year these courses will be taken. Students will be required to abide by these dates.

Your cooperation and assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Michelle Bencomo
Financial Aid Advisor
Luna Community College
505.434.2536 or

Weekly Activities

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Welcome Back Day for LCC Students
(Administration & Student Services)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Zumba Fitness Class (Vo-Ag. Bldg./101)

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Hip Hop Class (Vo-Ag. Bldg./101)
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. LCC Board of Trustees Board Meeting
(Stud. Serv./Cnf.Rm)

Thursday, January 19, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Evaluation & Job Description Analysis
Training (LRC/Lecture Hall)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Zumba Fitness Class (Vo-Ag. Bldg./101)

Friday, January 20, 2012
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Hip Hop Class (Vo-Ag. Bldg./101)

Saturday, January 21, 2012
7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. C.N.A. Testing(Allied Hlth/Nrsng.Lab#3,Comp.Lab#7,MO-11)
LUNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING VACANT JOB POSITIONS:

- Adjunct Faculty/Per Course Instructor
- Full-Time Faculty-Medical Surgical Nursing
- Full-Time General Maintenance I

FOR JOB DESCRIPTION(S) AND/OR CLOSING DATES, CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AT (505) 454-2503 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.LUNA.EDU

Save The Date

Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) Training

February 28 & 29, 2012
Luna Community College, Las Vegas NM

Synopsis:
This course is intended for anyone working with families affected by domestic violence. Participants will learn the Emerge curriculum and how it compares to other models. The training is structured to be highly interactive. Trainees will learn techniques and discuss special topics related to running abuser groups.

For more information on the event contact Amalinda Arguello @ 505.454.2583, aarguello@luna.edu

Government Contracting 101

Presenter: Elaine Palin, Advisor
Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)
Will provide a fast-paced, yet enjoyable workshop on government contracting.

Time: 9 a.m. - noon, Wednesday, Jan. 25.
Place: Las Vegas, NM SBDC
Luna Community College
366 Luna Drive
Las Vegas, NM 87701-9838

FEE: $29 (fee includes continental breakfast) make checks payable to SFCC/PTAP
RSVP: To register visit:
http://www.nmsbdc.org/ptap_calendar.html
For additional information contact: Julianne Gutierrez-Ortiz at 505-428-1343 or julianne.gutierrez-or@sfcc.edu

Sponsored By:
The SBDC at Luna Community College &
The NM /SBDC Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)

LCC Spring Class Registration is ongoing.
The last day to register is Jan. 24.
Hard copy schedules are now available—You may view and print spring schedules online at www.luna.edu.
LCC students invited to NMHU dance

A welcome back semi-formal dance will take place at the Highlands University Student Center Ballroom this Friday for both Highlands University and Luna Community College students.

It is sponsored by the National Society of Leadership and Success Chapter at NMHU.

The DJ for the dance will be Jac Christiaens. Attendees must be students that attend NMHU or LCC. Student IDs are required. The cost is $3 per person. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets can call 505-795-3295.

**Time:** 10 p.m.—2 p.m.  
**Date:** Friday, Jan. 20  
**Where:** NMHU Student Center Ballroom