

# The Luna Light



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

Volume 4 Issue 24

June 27-July 3, 2011

## LCC Foundation moving forward

**By Sara Flores  
LCC Foundation  
Executive Director**

Hello everyone!

Summer has started and that means it is golf season for the LCC Foundation! The Foundation is planning its annual golf tournament and has been busy going door-to-door asking the community for its support to host our Golf Tournament. Putting on a golf tournament is not easy, so we are doing as much outreach as we can in Las Vegas, Albuquerque, Santa Fe and other communities throughout New Mexico to get the donations we need for our tournament to match our Title V endowment of \$75,000.

The LCC Foundation had the opportunity to speak on the LCC Radio Shows on both local radio stations KLVF/KFUN and KNMX. Chairman Ernesto Salazar and I were able to promote the Foundation with Dr. Pete Campos and let the community know that we are here for the students.

Secretary of Tourism Monique Jacobson invited me, as a representative of the Foundation, to attend a regional meeting here in Las Vegas to promote LCC and the golf tournament. I met with people from north-eastern New Mexico that were thrilled to work with the Foundation and to promote Las Vegas as a tourism destination and include LCC events on their website.

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**Luna Community College quilting and sewing students Cathy Esquibel, Celine Kramer, Beatrice Gonzalez and Josette Martinez stand in front of one of many quilts that LCC students have on display at Thread Bear around The Plaza. To see more photos of the quilts on display, see pages 4 and 5. For more information on quilting and sewing classes call 505/454-2530 or visit the LCC Website at [www.luna.edu](http://www.luna.edu).**

# Observable attributes for student success

By Vidal Martinez, Vice-President for Instruction

After many years of academic life at Luna Community College, I have discovered patterns or key attributes for student success. These attributes are influenced by many factors, including conversations with students and interaction with faculty, staff and student services. Starting with No. 5, the following are what I consider important.

**No. 5.** LCC is not a large school like UNM or NMSU; therefore, it is important that students know their faculty and staff. This is what I call **social networking**. Wikipedia defines social network “as a social structure made up of individuals, who are tied by one or more specific types of interdependency, such as friendship, common interest (education) or relationships of beliefs.” The social networks can be created or expanded through academic advisors, faculty or department directors. Other social networking activities include participation in school clubs, organizations or LCC social functions.

**No. 4.** All LCC students must have an **academic advisor**. This person is required to assist the student with his or her program of study, course scheduling, student services and other college functions. Without an academic advisor, the student may not get the full benefits at LCC. (E-mail me if you are a LCC student and do not have an academic advisor – [vmartinez@luna.edu](mailto:vmartinez@luna.edu)).

**No. 3.** Let’s face it, not all instructors (faculty) are *the right fit*. When I was in college, I remember, on the first week of class, dropping and adding a course or two. Why? After reviewing the course syllabus and listening to the professor, I felt the class was not the right fit for me. This situation did not happen all the time, but I made the choice.

**LCC is not a large school like UNM or NMSU; therefore, it is important that students know their faculty and staff. This is what I call social networking.**

All of us have different learning styles and must find the right fit. **NO. 2. Study the syllabus.** Wikipedia defines a syllabus “as a document that explains the objectives and the means to obtain those objectives.” In other words, the syllabus is a document that explains the relationship between the student and instructor in reference to policies, learning expectations, classroom behavior, course content and teaching philosophy. The syllabus will help students see the light at the end of the tunnel and what is expected for student success.

**No. 1. Attend all class sessions and do the work.** I was never the sharpest tool in the shed but my success was the ability to attend almost every single class session, take notes, participate in class discussions, and do the work. It’s that simple. Treat school like a job: discipline, motivation and dedication.

Whatever we can do to help students become more successful, I’m all for it! Please e-mail me with your opinions or observable attributes for student success ([vmartinez@luna.edu](mailto:vmartinez@luna.edu)).

## Editor’s Note

When I was growing up in El Valle many years ago, my parents subscribed to *Reader’s Digest*. If I recall correctly, there was a segment headlined “Laughter is the Best Medicine.” Essentially, it was about a page or so of funny stories. And yes, it did make me laugh.

In today’s world we probably need a little more smiles and laughter in our lives, so I will attempt to share a joke or two every week in *The Luna Light*. Remember, even the littlest of smiles is better than no smile at all. Enjoy.

What do you get if you cross a frog and air pollution?

*Kermit the Smog*

What did his fish say to his old friend?

*“Long time no sea.”*

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Ancient Wisdom, Modern Medicine



Luna Community College student Gary Gamertsfelder (second from left) was elected by New Mexico SkillsUSA as the post-secondary state president. The election took place this past week in Kansas City. Gamertsfelder will lead the coordination effort in the 2012 New Mexico SkillsUSA Conference. For more on SkillsUSA, please see Friday's special edition of The Luna Light.

**BBQ & Entertainment**

**Come Join us for an Independence Day Celebration!**

**Thursday, June 30, 2011**

**11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**



**Luna Community College**

**Rough Rider Grill Patio**

Sponsored by the SAAI Program

## Foundation...

Continued from page 1

The Foundation Board is also very excited to announce the approval of \$2,500 in scholarships to eight students this summer! We are working every day to raise money so that we can support our students here at Luna Community College. The board would also like to welcome a new trustee to the Foundation family—Charlotte Moore. We are excited to work with her and we are looking forward to all of her ideas that she will bring to the LCC Foundation.

We also ask the LCC Family to help with the education of these students by donating \$10 a paycheck to the Foundation. If you do, you will automatically be entered in to a drawing to win a 22 inch flat screen TV. You can make these arrangements through Leticia Archuleta in the payroll office or myself at extension 1019.

I would like to thank all the Foundation Board and the LCC Family for supporting the Foundation. We appreciate all of your dedication to the students.

**Sarah Flores**  
**Foundation Executive Director**  
 (505) 454-5367  
 (505) 429-7371 Cell  
 sflores@luna.edu  
 Facebook us!

# Quilting skills by LCC students “remarkable”

Anyone that walks into Thread Bear around The Plaza will be amazed at the quilts that several Luna Community College students have on display.

The productivity caught the eye of LCC President Dr. Pete Campos.

“When I walked into Thread Bear on the Plaza, I was mesmerized by magnificent quilts made by our students,” said Dr. Campos. “The ingenuity, creativity and skill showcased through each quilt is remarkable and is second to none. My deepest compliments go to our students for a job done with pride and excellence.”

Over 20 quilt items are on display from five classes offered at Luna Community College. Each quilt project displays one or more lessons learned in class that produced the finished product.

“We have about 40 to 50 students every semester,” said LCC Quilting and Sewing Instructor Lin Chibante. “Quilting is popular right now. Many women are very artistic and they want something to do.”

The age of students range anywhere from 17 years to 82 years.

“We take beginners,” said Chibante. “They can come to any class; everyone is nice and helpful. They are just a great bunch of people. There is a lot of sharing of ideas and techniques.”

Although Chibante said that 99.9 percent of her students are female, however, occasionally a male student will take a class.

LCC quilting and sewing classes include introduction to quilting and sewing for beginners and others, foundation piecing and intermediate technique; quick rotary cut quilts,

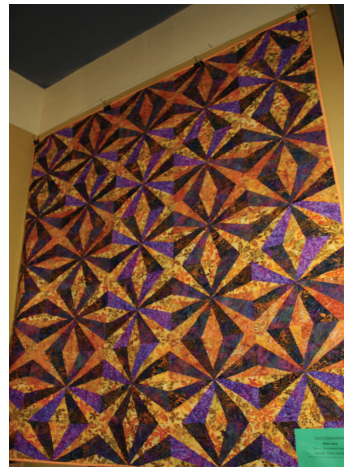
open to everyone as well as two more advanced classes, quilting and sewing II and quilting and sewing III. Registration for fall semester is ongoing with all five classes being offered.

Chibante says she is impressed with Luna Community Students.

“They are so enthusiastic. Enthusiasm is contagious,” says Chibante. “The women here spend from \$50 to \$300 in material for one blanket. This is not including their time. They usually make it for their friends and relatives. They give a lot of them away to charity.”

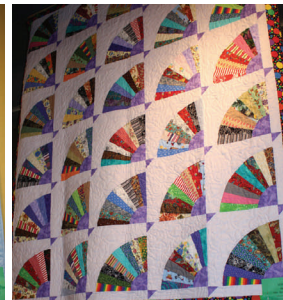
Ann and Michael Siewart, owners of Thread Bear, have given the Luna Community College quilting classes the entire store to show off their work.

The quilts will be on display through the end of June.



**LCC:**  
“The People’s College”

# LCC students quilts on display at Thread Bear



# Dr. Campos: LCC is a great college for students in all walks of life

*The following is the third in a four-part exclusive interview with Luna Community College President Dr. Pete Campos. Dr. Campos is completing his third year of a five-year contract.*

**You have often said that education is for everyone not just for the privileged. How are you ensuring that students at Luna Community College are reaching their potential?**

LCC is a great college for students from all walks of life. All a person has to do is commit to what is expected of them and never give up as they build a future for themselves. There are standards that must be met in order to gain access to and achieve educational goals. This includes things like: a certain ACT score, a baseline GPA, completion of core classes, proving an economic need to qualify for and to receive financial aid, providing complete and accurate information when filling out college entrance application forms and having the desire and drive to enter and succeed at mastering a chosen field of study.

That being said, once a student has completed the requirements to earn a degree, we must make a bona fide effort to assist students with their next step goals such as more education or finding employment. For example: If a person enters the cosmetology program it should then be a combined effort (ours and the student) so she/he will successfully complete the program. The assurance for student success comes from that person having the interest, aptitude and desire to ask questions about the chosen subject area and what it will take to complete the program of interest.

Our job is to provide the mentoring, tutoring, guidance, instruction and support so the student can work through the hurdles that

come with obtaining a good education. If a student has a particular challenge and is having trouble fulfilling their educational objectives, it is our role to find the proper assistance so the student can clear the hurdles that discourage them. I am asking all members of our Luna family to go beyond what their job description entails when a student needs help. For example: I (as a trained and licensed counselor) am counseling students who need help to maneuver through the difficulties in the classroom and at home to become educated and trained in the area of education they have chosen. It's working.

**Recent research shows that Luna Community College has one of the lowest tuition rates in the state. How does your administration plan to continue keeping tuition affordable for students?**

While tuition, fees and cost of books is significantly rising across the country, we are still able to provide one of the most affordable tuitions. That has happened by careful financial planning and design, not by accident. We know students are on a fixed budget, come from single parent families, are struggling to raise a family while attending college and aren't working and attending college full time without much financial help. This understanding of a large part of the student population we serve keeps us focused on doing everything possible so we don't pass the full burden of an education on to the students. We'll continue to evaluate budget needs and apply whatever revenues we can towards minimizing fees, tuition and related costs to obtaining a good education. We've done this for the past three years and intend to continue this direction.

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"The People's College"

**A farewell party was held for long-time Luna Community College employee Eloy Garcia (far left) last week. Garcia worked at LCC for 33 years. Pictured with him is Dorothy Simpson, an instructor at LCC. Between Simpson and Garcia they have nearly 80 years of higher education experience. Also pictured are Moses Marquez, Larry Paiz and John Tiernan.**





**This welcome back sign is being displayed at the fiscal office in the administration building. Luna Community College President Dr. Pete Campos has emphasized that he wants a welcoming environment for students at this college.**

## Dr. Campos interview...

**Continued from previous page**  
**Twenty years from now you will be having coffee at your home. How would you like to be remembered as president of Luna Community College?**

Only God knows where I will be in twenty years. I really appreciate this question because it is not how I would like to be remembered but what "WE" have sincerely done for students - that really counts. Those who are still young in their careers and those students, who are currently at LCC, twenty years from now, may say they remember me, heard of me or never knew me. It will not be how they remember me but what they have become and how they are passing what they have learned along to others. I still remember the late Albert N. Sanchez who was one of the first Presidents here at LCC, Superintendent at Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools and NEA leader. While I remember him as a tireless educator and administrator, I give him credit for always encouraging me to give life my best, focus on the needs of students and pass along the skills I have learned to others. I totally believe in giving life everything I have to help others, serve as a positive role model, thank others for the accolades and live through the hurts, jealousies and underpinnings I deal with

as President. In the end, it's not how I am remembered but how others whose lives I have touched are living their lives.

**What is being done about short and long term planning for Luna Community College?**

This is always a relevant question. I think all the planning and resources in the world will not make us a notable college unless we have complete buy-in from students, employees and the residents of our service area. We've planned to improve programs, facilities and equipment and we've raised the bar on faculty credentials to better prepare students. Our efforts are evident and our results are being recognized at home and beyond, particularly by the higher learning commission. But, all the planning that has taken place will not fully serve us unless we take our efforts forward and work as a family. Think about it, remember when the family all gathered in the kitchen and food was prepared, the table was set and after everyone ate, family members pitched-in to wash, dry and put up the dishes. Because we worked together in the kitchen we looked forward to the food prepared and the fun filled experience.

**Retention and recruitment are big issues in higher education, especially in**

**northern New Mexico. What are your plans to expand on this?**

I encourage students to let me know when they are having problems and they do. Some students don't have money, food or transportation to stay in college. So far, we have helped more students stay in college and finish the program(s) they have chosen to study. Some have already come back, thanked us for not letting them drop out and have shared their success stories how they are cutting hair at a Santa Fe Salon, being a leader in technology at Hewlett Packard in Rio Rancho and receiving a full ride scholarship to continue with their education at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

I spent 25 years in the restaurant business with my father. Our success came from following a simple formula. It is, when you provide good hospitality, good food, good service and a clean place - your customers will return again and again. It's the same with retention and recruitment: when we take care and prepare our students to do well, they tell others and send them our way. This plus doing what we do in-house and in the community to attract students and keep them will be the key to our future success.

**Jesusita Smith (SM&ET Instructor) demonstrates solar power and informing students about department programs during a recent barbeque at the college. For more information on SMET Programs call, 505/454-5306. At right is Joe Maestas painting window seals. Physical plant employees have been working hard all summer long getting the college ready for the fall semester.**



## Weekly Activities

### Monday, June 27, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pre-Service/BOHI Training /Spons: Citizens/Develop. Disabled (LRC/Lecture Hall)

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Retirement Gathering for Pete Manthei (Student Serv./Conf. Rm.)

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Dare To Be You Substance Abuse Prevention (Gen. Studies/102B)

### Tuesday, June 28, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pre-Service/BOHI Training /Spons: Citizens/Develop. Disable (LRC/Lecture Hall)

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDSMP Lead Training (Student Services/Conference Room)

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Wound-Vac. Workshop for Nurses in the Community (Allied Health/LO-1)

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Dare To Be You Substance Abuse Prevention (Gen. Studies/102B)

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Meet Your Spirit Guide/Community Ed. Course (IPC/Cafeteria)

Wednesday, June 29, 2011

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDSMP Lead Training (Student Services/Conference Room)

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Dare To Be You Substance Abuse Prevention (Gen. Studies/102B)

### Thursday, June 30, 2011

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Independence Celebration Activity (IPC/Cafeteria)

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Dare To Be You Substance Abuse Prevention (Gen. Studies/102B)

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Intuitive Healing with Essential Oils/Community Ed. Course (IPC/Cafeteria)

### Friday, July 1, 2011

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Dare To Be You Substance Abuse Prevention (Gen. Studies/102B)

### Saturday, July 2, 2011

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Dare To Be You Substance Abuse Prevention (Gen. Studies/102B)

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**AUGUST 27, 2011**  
**Pendaries Golf Course**

**THE LCC FOUNDATION**

**Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament**  
(Over \$50,000 raised for Title V in 2010)

For sponsor or registration request please contact:

<b>Sarah Flores</b> , Executive Director phone) (505) 454-5367 email) sflores@luna.edu	<b>Ernesto Salazar</b> , Co-Chairman phone) (505) 920-3696, email) ernesto@fnblv.com
<b>Phil J. Wolff</b> , Co-Chairman phone) (505) 425-2080 email) philw@northerninsurance.com	

You can also visit our website:  
[www.luna.edu/foundation](http://www.luna.edu/foundation) or Facebook us!  
Registration Brochure to follow.

Event Sponsors:

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