

# The Luna Light

*"The People's College"*

Mission Statement: "Creating Opportunities for You!"

Vision Statement: "New Mexico's Premier Community College: Preparing Students for Success!"

Visit us at  
[www.luna.edu](http://www.luna.edu)  
1-800-588-7232

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Oct. 6-Oct. 12, 2014

## Luna CC Student Government begins Second Annual Winter Coat Drive *All winter clothing items will be collected*

In 2013, the Luna Community College Student Government collected 150 pieces of winter clothing that was giving away in the community. This year, the goal is to reach 200.

Several boxes will be placed around campus for those wanting to give. Although the emphasis will be on coats, any type or article of cold weather clothing such as hats, gloves, and scarves are welcome.

Items will be distributed in late November.

"We simply want to help people in the community that can't afford it," said LCC Student Government President Victor Ramirez. "There is a fair amount of people that walk

around without a jacket. It's not just the homeless people that need help; it's also people with full-time jobs. Open up your heart; it's great to help someone out. Ramirez said that items collected will be made available to anyone who expresses a need. All they have to do is show up when the distribution takes place.

Last year, Ramirez' research showed that in the last United States Census figures, approximately 7300 people in San Miguel County live below the poverty level.

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**Luna Community College culinary student Kendrick Martinez displays his technique recently in a photo that will be used in a billboard campaign that is scheduled to start later this semester. Martinez is one of several students that will be used in the campaign. Other students from different disciplines will also appear in the final advertisement. Martinez is a resident of Mora.**

## LCC SkillsUSA collecting pumpkins for area children

Luna Community College SkillsUSA students are very thankful that the community helps them out when they compete at the state and national level every year. Today, they want to give something back.

They are holding a pumpkin drive to help kids in the community that they can use for either a home or school activity.

"We want as many kids to received one as possible," said Amberlynn Sena, SkillsUSA Treasurer. "We will deliver the pumpkins to the schools on Oct. 23."

If you would like to donate a pumpkin, call Sena at 505/426-6179.

"It's a great community give back," said Sena.

# LCC Fire Science students participate in training



Last week, students in the Luna Community College Fire Science Program participated in a training exercise held at the Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department. During the exercise, students learned the importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), fire-fighting equipment, and vehicle extrication. This semester, the students are enrolled in FS118: Principles of Emergency Services and FS214: Fire Protection Systems. (photos by Dr. Vidal Martinez)

**LCC: "The People's College"**

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## FLU SHOT CLINIC

The LCC Nursing Students in cooperation with the NM Public Health Department of San Miguel County will be providing free flu shots to healthy adults over the age of 18.

**Location: Allied Health Lobby**

**Date: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Time: 11:00am – 2:00pm**



# Down to the home stretch: “Luna a great place to work”

By Dr. Pete Campos  
LCC President

Preparing for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools site visit has been a good experience for all of us! The most enjoyment I’ve experienced has been to meet with our Luna Family members, review empirical data, have meaningful conversations, exchange questions and responses, and getting to know each other better. A person could write a book just on the dynamics of preparing for this very important visit. It’s like unpacking after moving into a new home: you sit there and reminisce as you go through each box, have fond memories come to light when you review old report notebooks that depict how much you’ve learned over the years, and relive special moments and important accomplishments that you may have completely forgotten.

We’re down to the home stretch, just a week left, and the HLC evaluation team will be here to meet with us. Our team is ready! We’ve contributed to the self-study, hosted many visitors and evaluators for other program accreditations, revisited the important elements and practices of providing successful educational outcomes for students, and drawn true meaning from our unselfish roles as professionals to leave a legacy for the future users and beneficiaries of Luna Community College.

What a wonderful and exciting time just a few days ahead. We’ll be given the opportunity to talk about our accomplishments, shared governance, methods of teaching and learning, connection to the region, and a host of personal community, trustee, employee, and student stories that tell of our successes. We’ve overcome uncontrollable circumstances like: the 2008 recession, a multi-year devastating drought that wiped away field grass and trees and restricted our use of water, and an infrastructure capital improvement plan (ICIP) delayed because of unavailable state resources. Now, we are back on track and moving ahead with a much greater understanding and appreciation of what it means to plan well, im-

plement prudently, and embrace an educational plan with innovation, vision, and commitment so outcomes will benefit students!

We’ve been professionally mentored by present and past employees and are providing mentorship to employees who have recently joined our community college family. I fondly remember my very first day and assignment in education. I had a formal education base and was thirsting for formal experience. I believed

then and still wholeheartedly believe that the educational experience I have gained and shared with others helped them to move along in their lives in very positive ways. To this day, I still hold to an important life principle and that is: “be patient with others and help and support them each and every day as though it was their first day on the

job.” We must give each other good advice, respect one another, allow for and recognize the attainment of colleagues, and don’t listen to selfish hurtful propaganda. A mature employee has no reason to mislead others.

We are smart employees! We’ve made a good living by working at LCC. We are grateful for the opportunity to feed and provide for our families because of our jobs here at Luna. We rely on and apply best practices and the sound judgment of others we trust. When we pay it forward, because of the early and ongoing strong career mentoring we receive, the next generation will be inspired, well guided, and have a purpose to improve their lives and those they influence.

Regardless of our positions, we are valued and can accomplish big things. Joseph Campbell, American Writer, said, “Passion will move men and women beyond themselves, beyond their shortcomings, beyond their failures.” Ultimately, life is an opportunity to utilize our talents and reach personal satisfaction every day at the office.

Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of our colleagues and students. We’re all a part of a special place. **Luna Community College is a great place to work!**

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## LCC: “The People’s College”

# Preparing students for a lifetime of success

By Dr. Pete Campos  
LCC President

Relevant and recent research indicates that employers are looking for well-rounded job candidates. In other words, they want prospective employees who are independent thinkers willing to use what they have learned along with their individual and intuitive skills to create the future for the benefit of the company and society in general. According to the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, “Education, knowledge, and experience can help you get to the top of the candidate list, but highlighting your soft skills can really set you apart in a competitive market.”

Employers are searching for employees who are committed to company success through trial and error, extended hours (beyond the traditional 40 hour a week schedule), and the ability to develop “new” innovations that will stimulate the society served! Diverse skills will drive the company team of the future. If a person says, “All I want is to work a 40 hour week, take home a good pay check with health benefits throughout their career, and have a pension at the end of their career,” they are mistaken! The global career competitiveness is placing great pressure on the students of Luna Community College. Now, for example, we have the no-holds-barred efforts – across the board - to produce highly qualified, talented, and fully committed students in cosmetology, dental assisting, nursing, carpentry, and welding. We’ll do this, but the students themselves must be ready to enter the workforce and respond to the high demands of the industry’s they

have chosen.

We’re looking out for our students, but they must look out for themselves as well! We don’t want them to fail or fall short of their goals. We want them to succeed, enjoy the satisfaction of their accomplishments, and then, prepare those who follow them, for success. Ultimately, it will take

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those who care, are unselfish in their career attempts to serve others, and eventually inspire future students to soar to new levels of accomplishments and service.

Again, according to the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, “many prospective employers are looking for a combination of both technical and soft skills that go beyond a simple job description. They want a well-rounded individual with diverse skills to join their team.”

Generally, soft skills are a person’s personality traits, behaviors, and attitudes that can positively impact the work environment and business culture. Think about it! If you have the skills, personality, and can-do attitude to move a company forward, you will not only succeed, you’ll help a company to become a highly successful and recognized provider of their product that benefits society.

While there are hundreds of different

soft skills, each personal skill represents the strengths we bring to the table for collective success. The following are some examples of the most critical soft skills that employers are looking for when making their hiring decisions. 1] Team player – will the new employee make a good team player, communicate with others, and unselfishly contribute to the well-being of the company and consumers; 2] Does the new employee have the ability to share unselfish solutions to resolve company shortcomings; 3] Will the new employee utilize their ability to stimulate innovation, creativity, and vision; 4] Does the new member of the team have the wisdom to manage time on

task, get things done in a reasonable time frame, and wholeheartedly and unselfishly complete the task(s) assigned without undermining the company; 5] Will the new employee communicate effectively and always move the cause forward without complaining because they have not been assigned the lead; and, 6] Will the new employee be an example of inspiration and leadership so those being served by the initiative will remain confident in the action of those who serve them.

At Luna Community College, we are preparing our students to serve others in the careers they have chosen. Our students will become the providers of essential services for the existence and productivity of society. We care, and our students are dedicated to becoming the leaders and trend setters in their respective professions.

**Halloween Bake Sale to benefit SkillsUSA Automotive from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8 at STEM/ACE LAB—cookies, cupcakes, cokes, water and more.**



*"Creating Opportunities for You!"*

Luna Community College will be going through an on-site re-accreditation visit at the campus on October 13-15, 2014. A team of evaluators will be conducting a comprehensive evaluation.

We encourage 3rd party comments regarding Luna Community College practices, procedures, and/or policies.

All comments should be sent directly to:

Mr. Lloyd Hammonds, Team Chair

[lloyd.hammonds@coconino.edu](mailto:lloyd.hammonds@coconino.edu)

# Winter coat drive...

Continued from page 1

"I appreciated the generosity of people donating over 150 items last year; this year our goal is 200," said Ramirez.

Ramirez said that anyone that has a winter clothing item they would like to donate but cannot drive up to Luna Community, can call or e-mail him and he will personally go pick it up. Ramirez can be reached at 454-2500 ext. 1604 or at studentgovernment@luna.edu.

"It's nice to see people with smiles on their faces when they receive a coat," said Ramirez. "It's nice to see Luna Community College employee and students be so generous."

The Luna Community College Student Government is looking

into some other community and college initiatives.

**Notes:** The Luna Community College Student Government has a senatorial position available. Petitions for this can be picked up from Amanda Ortiz in financial aid and are due back by noon on Thursday, Oct. 9. According to the LCC Student Government Constitution, all candidates will be required to write a letter of interest. After an interview by the student

**'It's nice to see people with smiles on their faces when they receive a coat,'—Victor Ramirez.**

government advisors, a recommendation to the student government for approval will take place at the next meeting. All candidates must hold a 2.0 grade point average and be registered at least six hours.



Luna Community College's Betsy Sanchez engages her students in learning the fundamentals of algebra with applications in the 8-week course fall 2014 semester. When the students complete this course they are registered to take on intermediate algebra for the other 8-week course of this semester.

# One-on-one with LCC's Humanities Instructor Linda Tapia

## Tell us about your professional experience and educational background.

I received a BA and MA in English, language arts, and speech communications, plus a minor in theatre from Highlands University. I also have an administrator's certification, and endorsements in TESOL and reading. I taught for 29 years at West Las Vegas High School—English 9-12 (regular, remedial, and advanced classes). I also taught theatre/drama and directed ten full-length plays which were performed at NMHU for the students and the public.

I was assistant principal at the High School (WLVHS) and at the middle school for two years which makes my total years at WLW 31 years. I have taught at LCC for six years—freshman composition II, public speaking, and interpersonal communication

## Describe your teaching style or teaching philosophy.

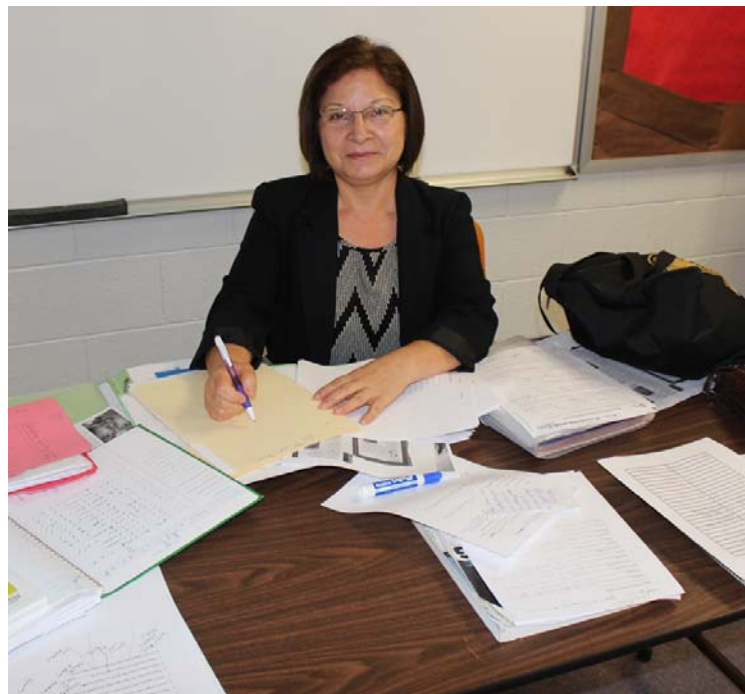
My teaching philosophy is quite simple: Hard work will pay off. My teaching style is also simple: Make learning fun and interesting so students will want to keep coming back to class.

## What is your favorite part of your current job and why is it your favorite part?

My favorite part of my current job is helping young people get prepared for their future career by stressing how important it is for individuals to be good strong confident speakers.

## What are one or two of your proudest professional accomplishments?

My proudest professional accomplishment is the knowledge that I have been an educator for 37 years and in that time, I have been a role model to my students; also I have been an inspiration to them to go out and pursue their own goals and dreams. So many of my students have written me letters or stop me at a store or at functions and tell me that they enjoyed my classes or the school plays they were in or that they remember something significant about my Eng-



Linda Tapia says her teaching philosophy is simple: Hard work will pay off.

lish, drama, or public speaking courses.

## How does your background and experiences strengthen academics at LCC?

I am a serious-minded instructor who believes in proper instruction and hard work. I have the experience and knowledge to offer a top-notch education to all my students. My 37 years of experience add stability and strength to the humanities department at LCC.

## Jesse's quick hits

Remember to smile a few times a day. I hope this helps—Jesse

*What do you call mice in a freezer?*

Mice cubes.

*What's an ape's favorite cookie?*

Chocolate chimp.

*What do you do if a gorilla sneezes?*

Get out of the way

*What do you get if you cross a pig and a tree?*

A porkypine.

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## LCC School of Business Faculty



**Geraldine Romero**  
Accounting  
MA – Business Administration  
BA – Accounting, Math,  
Secondary Education



**Elaine Ortega**  
Business Administration  
MBA – Business Management  
BA – MIS Management  
AAS – Computer Programming



**Dolores Gutierrez**  
General Business  
MBA – Business Administration  
BA – Accounting



**Brendaleigh Lobato**  
Adjunct Instructor  
MA – Computer Technologies  
BA – History/Spanish Minor  
AAS – Computer Technologies

The School of Business at LCC offers Associate Degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, General Business and Certificates in Accounting and Small Business Management

*“To Graduate*

*SkilledMotivatedAccomplishedReliableTalented*

*Students”*

Our Goal is:

- To provide quality education through courses, certificates and degrees;
- To prepare students for the workforce;
- To prepare students for transferability to a university; and
- To assist students in professional development



**October 24, 2014**  
**3:00pm**  
**Rough Rider Grill**  
366 Luna Drive  
Las Vegas, NM

# *“Your Input Is Valuable”*

**Refreshments & Door Prizes**

**Contact: Amanda Lucero 505.454.2557**

**[alucero@luna.edu](mailto:alucero@luna.edu)**

# 2014 Raton Homecoming Parade



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