

## The latest news from Luna Community College

Second Volume 2, Issue 19

Oct. 25, 2019

**Briana Montañó-Baca of the Luna Small Business Development Center shows the State Star Counselor’s Award she earned July 31 at a statewide meeting in Red River. Even the local wildlife can’t help but be drawn in by the excitement of the occasion. Montañó-Baca also was recognized at a national conference on Sept. 3 in Long Beach, Calif.**



# Job creation a goal for Montañó-Baca

## SBDC associate earns recognition

Luna’s Small Business Development Center Associate Director Briana Montañó-Baca recently brought home two honors.

She received the SBDC State Star Counselor’s Award for her exceptional work with clients and the communities she serves. She also represented New Mexico at the national America’s Small Business Development Center Conference in Long Beach, Calif.

Since she began working with the SBDC three years ago, she has helped start 36 businesses and create 139 jobs.

“I love what I do,” she says. “It’s not only about helping clients; it’s about people’s livelihoods.”

The mission of the SBDC is to develop skilled entrepreneurs and strong businesses. The New Mexico Small Business Development Center (NMSBDC) was established in 1989 through a partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the State of New Mexico, the New Mexico Association of Community Colleges, and the New Mexico Association of Independent Community Colleges. The organization’s offices are strategically located in 26 communities throughout New Mexico.

The Luna SBDC works with clients from Mora, Guadalupe, Colfax

and San Miguel counties.

“I love being part of the Luna family,” she says.

The program provides no-cost business consulting and low- or no-cost business training to entrepreneurs throughout the state.

As part of her duties, Montañó-Baca also assists Luna students start business plans and links them with funding opportunities they may qualify for.

Born and raised in Las Vegas, Montañó-Baca is a West Las Vegas High graduate. She earned her undergraduate college degree from Texas Tech University and her master’s from Highlands. While in high school, she took dual credit courses at Luna.

# Scary fun

## LCC Campus Life has Halloween events planned

If you're looking for a frightfully good time this Halloween, Luna has you covered.

The LCC Office of Campus Life is hosting a pair of seasonal events that have proven popular with locals in recent years.

The Fright Night haunted house will be open from 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, and Thursday, Oct. 31, at the old agricultural education building just west of the Allied Health Building. Admission is \$5 a person.

Trunk or Treat will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31, at the Student Services parking lot. It is free to all, families and children of all ages.

Luna employees or student groups interested in setting up and hosting their own trunk for the event or in helping with the haunted house are asked to contact Janice Medrano, 505-454-2546.



# Luna board election Nov. 5

As October winds down, the election of Luna Community College Board of Trustees looms in the days ahead.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5. The LCC trustee positions for all seven community college districts are open contests on the ballot.

Since filing date Aug. 27, several candidates have officially withdrawn their names from consideration, according to the New Mexico Secretary of State's Office. The following is an updated list of candidates.

#### **DISTRICT 1 (Las Vegas City Schools)**

Kenneth C. Medina (incumbent), Las Vegas  
Dawn Martinez, Las Vegas  
Jaylene Marie Quiles, Las Vegas

Roy Max Herrera Sr., Las Vegas; WITHDRAWN

#### **DISTRICT 2 (West Las Vegas Schools)**

Candace Ann Thomas, Las Vegas  
Mark A. Dominguez (incumbent), Las Vegas  
Daniel S. Hernandez, Las Vegas

#### **DISTRICT 3 (Mora)**

Phyllis S. Martinez, Mora  
George A. Trujillo, Rio de la Casa  
Ernie Chavez (incumbent), Cleveland; WITHDRAWN  
Herman Richard Medina, La Cordillera; WITHDRAWN  
Tim T. Hagaman, Mora

#### **DISTRICT 4 (Santa Rosa)**

Maria Elena Will-Ross, Santa Rosa  
Maximiliano Gilbert Tenorio Jr., Santa Rosa

#### **DISTRICT 5 (Las Vegas City Schools)**

Meredith A. Britt, Las Vegas  
Julian Cristobal Jaramillo (incumbent), Las Vegas  
Dianna Medrano, Las Vegas

#### **DISTRICT 6 (Springer, Wagon Mound, Maxwell districts)**

Louise L. Portillos, Springer  
Martin Frank Gonzales (incumbent), Las Vegas; WITHDRAWN

Elizabeth K. Ratzlaff, Sapello

#### **DISTRICT 7 (West Las Vegas Schools)**

Maxine L. Salas, Las Vegas

# Success stories being sought

As part of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations' ongoing efforts to promote the many positive happenings at Luna, we are seeking your help in finding and recognizing LCC success stories.

We are looking for examples of individuals who have attended Luna and gone on to rewarding jobs and careers or those who have continued their education perhaps by earning bachelor's, master's or doctorate degrees. Success stories need not be limited to these; a good success story could be someone who has gone on to have a positive impact on their community in any number of different ways. If you know of any outstanding individuals whose lives

have been positively impacted by their time at Luna, please let us know. It would help if you could provide the necessary contact information, as well, if possible.

As noted above, finding, writing and publishing success stories has been and will continue to be an ongoing endeavor. Please keep us in mind as you encounter potential subjects for these success stories.

Thank you!

**Jesse Gallegos**

Public Relations Coordinator

**Dave Kavanaugh**

Communications & Marketing

# A place to stay

## Samaritan House offers help with housing needs

Luna students who may be going through a rough time when it comes to housing, there is some good news – the local Samaritan House may be able to lend a hand.

The Samaritan House has a new Youth Homeless Demonstration Program grant that will provide housing for up to 24 months for qualifying youth between the ages of

18-24 years.

To qualify for this grant, an individual must be:

1. At least 18 years old, but not older than 24 years of age.
2. Literally homeless (sleeping outside, staying in car, staying in a shelter or institution). Sleeping anywhere not meant for human habitat or
3. At risk of being homeless (couch surfing or staying with family or friends but not on a permanent basis) or
4. Fleeing violence or domestic abuse or abuse from family.

An individual has to meet just one of the other criteria as long as they meet the age requirement.

“All information will remain confidential,” said Samaritan House Youth Housing Specialist Patricia McRill.

“We will pay for their deposit, rent, electricity, gas, wood and water. We want to assist an individual to the point where they won’t be burdened and will be able to focus on such things as earning an education and finding employment.”

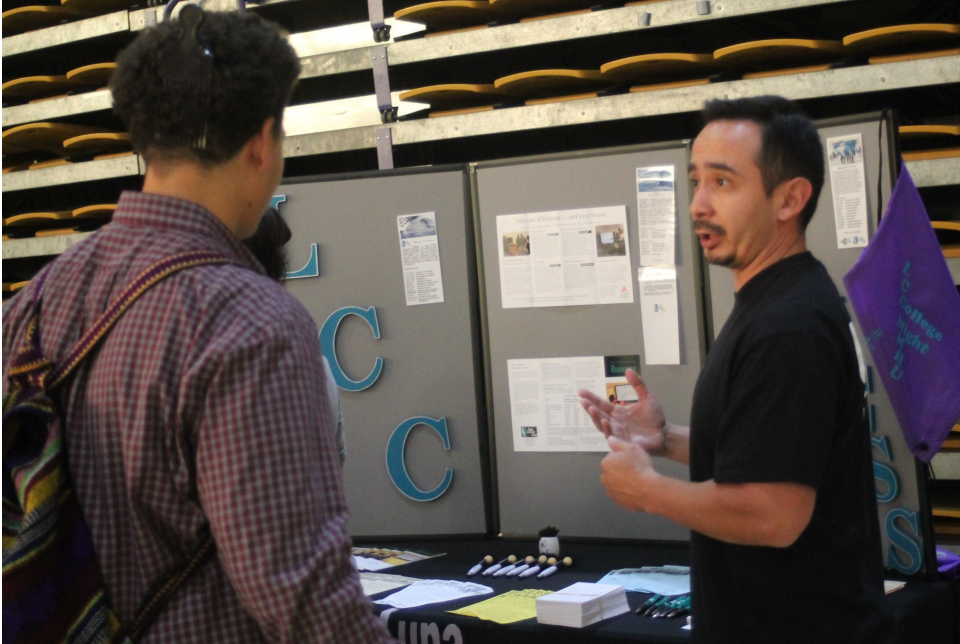
For more information, call McRill at 505-454-1390.



## Handiwork

The quilting and sewing students of the LCC Vocational Studies Department hosted the LCC Preschool to present them with aprons made for the children to wear when they help cook in their classroom. Among those pictured at the Oct. 17 event are Kathy Archuleta, Audry Martinez, Gloria Mejillas (seated), Bonny Lopez, Linda Montoya, Emilia Rivera, Lin Chibante, Twyla Wilkinson, Debbie Archuleta, preschool staff, Rosita Ellis and teaching staff and students from the preschool.

**College Scorecard:** The U.S. Department of Education’s College Scorecard has the most reliable data on college costs, graduation and post-college earnings. Visit [collegescorecard.ed.gov](http://collegescorecard.ed.gov)



Luna business instructor Reyes Coca discusses opportunities available in the program with an interested student. College & Career Night 2019, co-hosted by Luna and New Mexico Highlands, provided a one-stop venue for information on both institutions and the possibilities in higher education in general.

# College Night gets interactive

Hundreds of participants – many of them high school students and their parents, as well as others interested in higher education – visited the 2019 College & Career Night co-hosted by Luna Community College and New Mexico Highlands University on Oct. 16 at Highlands’ John A. Wilson Complex.

The annual event is designed to provide information and resources about Las Vegas’ two institutions of higher education and their programs. It also answers questions about college life and the opportunities available. Representatives of many academic, vocational and student services departments for both schools were on hand to talk with participants.

This year, a number of college representatives sought to further engage College & Career Night participants through the use of interactive materials and activities.

Luna’s culinary arts students served up samples of their food to supplement the refreshments. Cosmetology students offered paraffin treatments. Nursing students conducted blood pressure checks. At other tables, participants got to use Highlands’ media arts set lighting and Luna’s upgraded collision repair software. Those who stopped by Luna’s education table got to check out the interactive sensory learning tools used in early childhood settings. Outside the front entrance to the Wilson Complex, the rumble of a large engine block – set up by Luna’s automotive technology crew – summoned the curious. Back inside, the Luna STEM department offered giveaway sunglasses and a fog machine in addition to program information.

In addition to the individual departments, admissions and recruitment office representatives provided



Luna financial aid director Michael Montoya and registrar Henrietta Romero and Highlands student success coach Caroline Montoya were among those on hand.

a convenient one-stop corner for visitors to acquire basic information and applications. Nearby, NMHU merchandise was available for purchase.



**Interactive features like new auto collision welding software bring an extra element of fun, engaging students at College & Career Night on Oct. 16.**



**Nursing students conduct blood pressure checks as part of College & Career Night.**



**Allied Health instructor Breanna Gould talks about degree and certificate programs available at Luna.**



**STEM table visitors are treated to a fog machine.**



**Education director Brenda Ortega demonstrates the interactive sensory learning tools employed in early childhood settings.**



**Student chef Sarah Gallegos slices chicken ready to be plated and served to customers. The Luna culinary arts restaurant class invites the community to visit for dining every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the cafeteria.**



**Hope Sandoval and Steven Alvino deliver food to customers Sheryl Yara and Mary Duran at the Luna cafeteria.**



**Steven Alvino pours water for customer Stormi Miller, also an instructor at Luna.**

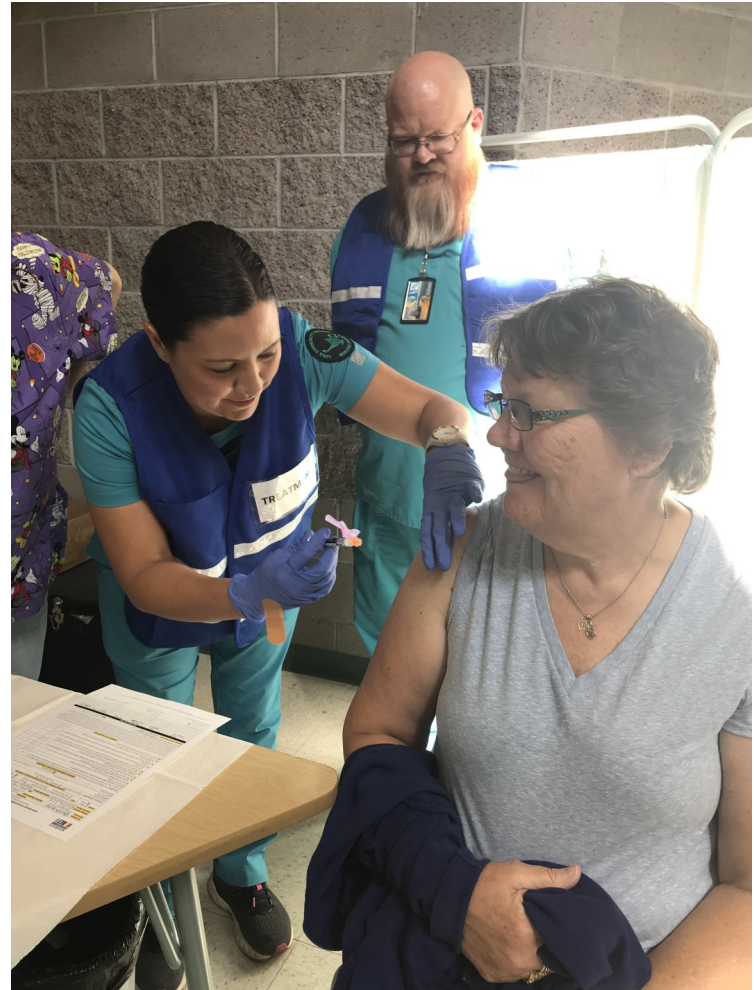


**Sarah Gallegos and Fabian Lucero show their finished plates ready to be delivered to their customers.**

## Culinary arts students get a taste for the trade

**Near right: Fabian Lucero pan sears tilapia for Luna's first restaurant class of the year. Far right: Student chef Sarah Gallegos learns how to cut lemons for garnish as shown by instructor Hope Sandoval.**





## Nursing students aid in flu shot clinic

Clinical skills training and community outreach go hand in hand for the Luna nursing program. Here, Luna nursing students assist with the flu shot clinic sponsored by the New Mexico Department of Health's San Miguel County office on Oct. 17 at the Allied Health Building. Ninety-seven shots were administered.

# Team Luna joins Lions in Santa Rosa



**A team from Luna Community College was among those taking part in the Santa Rosa High School homecoming parade on an idyllic autumn afternoon Friday, Oct. 18.**





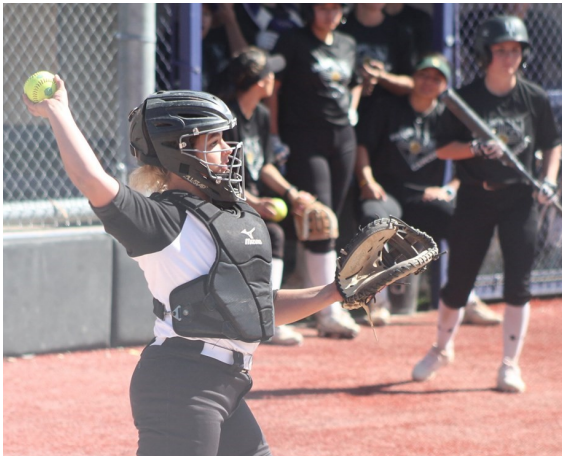
# Fall classic:



## Luna vs. Highlands in softball friendly



Luna softball coach Steve Wallace and his Rough Riders visit New Mexico Highlands for a crosstown exhibition doubleheader on Oct. 15 at Cowgirl Field. The team wore pink and gave out commemorative pins to raise awareness of breast cancer and honor the fight against all types of cancer.



Luna Community College invites you to join us for  
**A salute to our veterans**



**Monday, Nov. 11**

Wreath laying ceremony  
 8:45 a.m.

Monument west of Tech hallway

Recognition of veterans  
 9 a.m.

Media Arts Auditorium

Unveiling of plaque:  
 Maximiliano Luna &  
 the Rough Riders  
 Approximately 9:45 a.m.  
 Media Arts Auditorium



**STEM Club  
 welcomes  
 new members**

Luna students, if you are interested in science, technology, engineering and math or community service, you're invited to join the LCC STEM Club. You do not have to be a STEM major to join. The club meets at noon on Tuesdays in Tech 102.

For more information, contact Nichole Collins, Tech 125A, Betsy Sanchez, Tech 102, or Rachael Lucero, Admin 103.

**LUNA'S  
 FRIGHT NIGHT**  
 Admission \$5/person  
 Oct. 30 & 31, 2019  
 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
 AG dungeon behind the Nursing Building  
 Sponsored by: Campus Life, Student Senate, SNA & STEM

**Skull coloring  
 contest open**

Luna's Staff Advisory Senate is sponsoring a Halloween skull coloring contest.

Luna participants are asked to pick up skulls from Café de Luna coffee shop and color and decorate them. Submit your finished skulls to June Lopez at the Samuel F. Vigil Learning Resource Center by Oct. 28 to enter.

The winner will receive a Café de Luna gift card worth \$20.



# Trunk or Treat

Oct. 31, 2019  
5:30 - 7 p.m.



**Student Services parking lot**

**At Luna Community College**

- Gather together with friends and family to start your Halloween trick-or-treating
- Kids get their treats from the trunks of decorated cars
- This event provides a SAFE family environment for trick-or-treaters



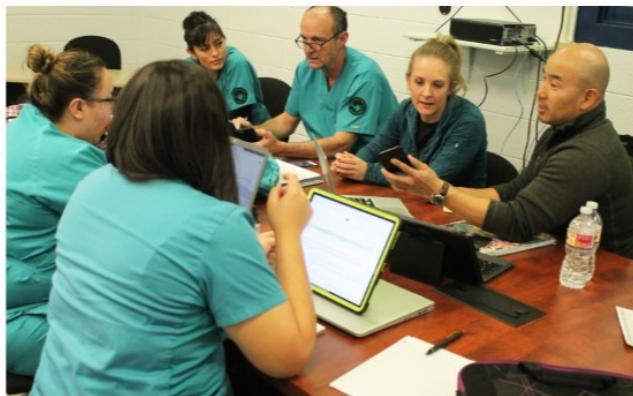
HAPPY HALLOWEEN



If you are interested in hosting a trunk, contact Janice Medrano @ 505-454-2546

Sponsored by Campus Life

# We help you take on the TEAS!



## Free TEAS prep workshops

6-8 p.m.

General Studies Building,  
room 112 or 118

**FREE** workshops to help prepare you for the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) are now being offered at Luna Community College. Contact Yvonne Pina, [ypina@luna.edu](mailto:ypina@luna.edu), or 505-454-2525, to sign up or to get more information.

### Workshop schedule

Oct. 21: Pre-testing and overview

Oct. 23: Life science

Oct. 28: Anatomy and physiology

Oct. 30: Math

Nov. 5: Reading

Nov. 7: Post test

