

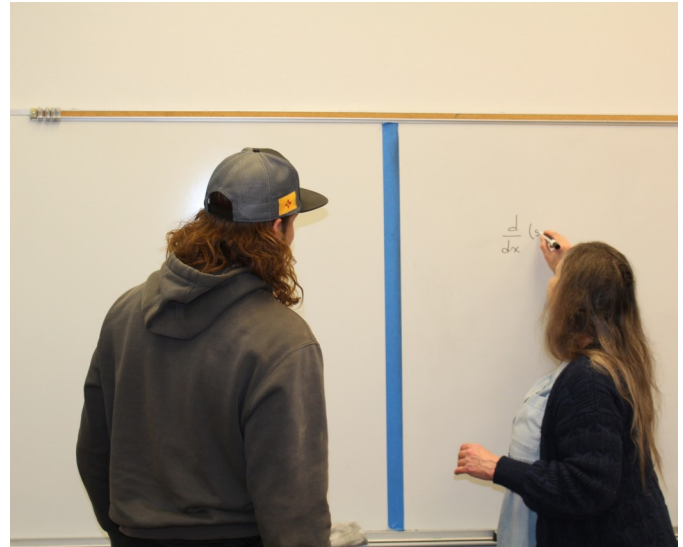
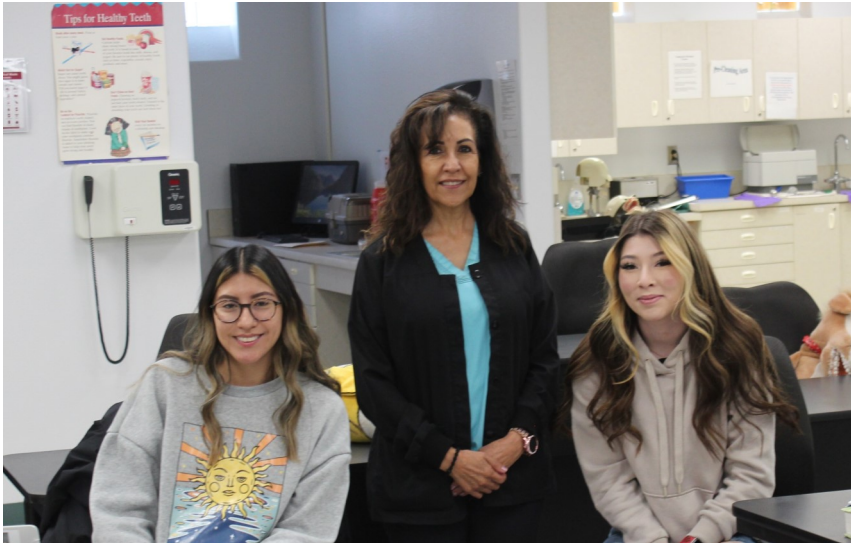


The latest news from Luna Community College

Second Volume 6, Issue 1

January 24, 2023

Visit luna.edu



Luna’s spring semester is off to a great start as the first day of class was Tuesday, Jan. 17. Classes in dental assisting began 2023 with dental pharmacology. Pictured (left photo) are student Marisol Maestas, instructor Gloria Pacheco, and student Jaizley Gonzales. In the second photo, Luna student Braydon Schofield pays close attention to Dr. Rita Surdi in a calculus II class. The last day to enroll for the spring semester is Friday, Jan. 27. For more information, call Luna at 505-454-2500 or visit Luna’s website at luna.edu.

Luna seeking equity with legislative funding

In an effort to pursue quality, equitable education for northeastern New Mexico, Luna Community College has identified six priority projects and is requesting legislative funding for implementation.

“We want to thank the state legislature and Governor Lujan Grisham for all the funding they have given Luna in the past, and now, more than ever we need their support,” says Luna President Dr. Edward Martinez. “Everything we are asking for will benefit the students and the communities of northeastern New Mexico.” These projects include participation in CHESSE, a mobile medical health information and training classroom, workforce training simulators and athletics facilities, all of which are described in more detail on page 7.

Luna, like many residents in northeastern New Mexico, has had its trials and tribulations recently. In addition to the pandemic everyone has had to work through, Luna and many northeastern New Mexico residents, are mak-

ing a comeback after being displaced by the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon fire. Despite four weeks of evacuation and four more weeks of campus smoke rehabilitation during the peak enrollment period, Luna came back strong in fall 2022, with just a handful of students short of 2021 fall numbers.

“Our No. 1 goal is and always will be to support students. We are making that happen through our ‘Luna Strong’ program,” said President Martinez. “At times, life brings challenges and our students have shown they can endure and overcome them. But we want to be there to help and to make sure our students always believe in themselves. We want to provide them with the resources and support they need to meet challenges head-on and turn them into opportunities.”

Recognizing the economic and personal costs of the recent fires, floods and water shortages, Luna has applied

Continued on page 7



Luna
Community
College

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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

Amor Sanchez sees herself as a teacher one day

Name: Amor Sanchez

Position: Administrative Assistant for Preschool, Education and School of Business

What year did you start working for Luna? January 2022

What do you like most about Luna and why? I like all the people I work with on campus. Everyone has always been kind and helpful.

What does your job entail; what does a day at Luna look like for you? I cover three departments Preschool, Education, and School of Business, so my days are usually pretty fast-paced and busy. However, the best part of my job is definitely getting those little hugs from our preschoolers and knowing that's the reason we work so hard every day.

Favorite food and why? Green chile cheeseburger. You can never go wrong with some New Mexico green chile.



Amor Sanchez

Favorite TV show and why? I don't really have a favorite tv show. I really watch whatever looks good on Netflix.

Where would you like to see yourself in five years? My Job here at the preschool has inspired me to get my teaching degree so hopefully in five years I will have gotten that and will be teaching in my own classroom.

What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in life and why? My biggest accomplishment in life is being a MOM. I love seeing my daughter grow and become a beautiful kind soul.

What do you consider a good day in your life? A good day in my life is being blessed with another day.

What do you enjoy doing outside of working at Luna? Spending time with family and friends.

Any final comments? Luna is a wonderful place to work at.

Allied Health and Public Service

We are adding another cohort of Emergency Medical Technician Basic Training to be offered in the Santa Rosa area partnering with UNM EMS Academy.

Luna Strong – Feeding Rough Rider Success

We received our first delivery from The Food Depot on Tuesday, Jan. 17. This will allow us to expand our Tiendita Food Pantry

options when students are returning to campus

Come Join Us on the Hill

There is still time to enroll in Allied Health and Public Service classes for the spring semester! We have a variety of courses that will earn you credits toward an Allied Health Associates of Applied Science and/or certificate, Criminal Justice Associates of

Arts and/or certificates as well as courses to help you finish your nursing prerequisites and general education core. Go to <https://luna.edu/schedule> for a full list of Luna Classes. Most classes started on Jan. 17 and the last day to add a class is Jan. 27, 2023.—

Carol Linder, Director

Luna students, employees all smiles during first day of spring semester



LCC
Creating Opportunities For You!



MISSION
Luna Community College is dedicated to providing accessible, innovative and integrated learning experiences that prepare students to compete at the forefront of their chosen fields and to lead in their communities





Luna students and employees enjoyed a welcome back barbeque at the college on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips were part of the menu sponsored by the student senate and campus life office.

Luna appreciates all the work physical plant employees do throughout the year. In addition, they all work together as a team for special projects such as snow removal.



Luna seeking equity...

Continued from page 1 for and won grants to implement programs that address holistic student wellbeing. Highlights include food pantries, healthy, precooked meals provided free and a robust mental health awareness and training program to provide students, faculty and staff resources and information to recognize and address mental health concerns.

Living up to its motto of 'Creating Opportunities for You' and as part of its post-pandemic revision and reopening, Luna is now offering both new and updated programming. Some of these include EMT training, film technician training, pre-engineering, non-credit workforce skills programs, a mariachi band and 3D printing. Luna has also opened

a community kitchen and restarted its community education program. Luna also offers rapid completion automotive and welding certifications and a [partnership with San Juan College for Surg-Tech training](#). One example of Luna's rapid response to community need is Querencia in Action, a pilot program for the planned Wildfire Resiliency Training Center. In partnership with the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, Luna has provided local community members with training in erosion control, burn-scar recovery, soils evaluation and other skills needed to mitigate and recover from disasters.

Luna has also volunteered to be the distribution site for approximately 170 cords of wood to be given out to San Miguel County residents 60 and over who have been impacted by the wildfires. This initiative is in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service the New Mexico State Forest,

Help New Mexico and the NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute.

Luna has several legislative funding requests this year. Among them are:

- \$1,000,000 for Collaborative Higher Education Shared Services (CHESS). Luna is joining the "Wave Two" colleges to bring its computer information systems out of the 1980s and into the 21st century. The college has committed significant fund balances to this effort, but complete implementation requires more.

**"We are pursuing equity for northeastern New Mexico. We want our students to have access to 21st century technology, health care and health information, competitive facilities, relevant training programs and living wage jobs,"—
*Luna President Dr. Edward Martinez.***

- \$110,000 for a mobile medical classroom. The year 2023, will see Luna receive its first Mobile Medical Classroom to provide rural service areas with education, skills training, outreach and new enrollment opportunities. However, equipment is needed to complete the classroom for community health information training and for providing instruction in EMT-Basic, phlebotomy, and dental skills.

- \$583,000 for a technology update. Outdated elements of instructional and institutional support technology must be replaced to meet the needs of a post-COVID education and business environment that requires high quality virtual access. Updates will support Luna's capacity to deliver distance and hybrid learning, create mobile instruction and conference capability and enhance virtual communications in

support of community engagement.

- \$483,529 for Sim Training for Workforce Expansion. High demand and high wages are good news for individuals qualified to hold jobs in the craft and skilled trades economy. But since they make so much more than Luna can pay in salaries, program expansion is limited by instructor availability. But the addition of simulators significantly increases program capacity and decreases time-to-completion.

- \$1,000,000 for locker rooms. Luna currently has 69 men and women athletes. That number is expected to rise to 100 with the addition of cross-country teams. But the current athletics field house does not have locker rooms. In

order to successfully recruit and grow enrollment, the athletics programs need appropriate space. Locker rooms can be added without expanding the college footprint.

- \$309,692 for the Wildfire Resiliency Training Center. This new funding request is to develop five different short-term certificates that, once implemented, would address workforce needs in the wildland fire and forest and land restoration workforce. Once created, the certificates would attract students and directly impact enrollment at Luna.

"We want to thank everyone supporting these initiatives," said Dr. Martinez. "We are pursuing equity for northeastern New Mexico. We want our students to have access to 21st century technology, health care and health information, competitive facilities, relevant training programs and living wage jobs."

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program providing free tax preparation

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program will be providing free tax assistance and preparation for senior citizens at Luna Community College beginning on Tuesday, Feb. 7 through Tuesday, April 18.

The services will be provided from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Tuesdays only. Appointments are required and may be made by calling 505-454-5356. Individuals are asked to leave a voice mail and volunteers will return the calls. Individuals may also make an appointment by visiting Luna's website at luna.edu and click on the AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program link.

The location of the free tax services will be in room GS-112 in the General Studies Building (behind the Maria H. Paiz Administration Building) on Luna's main campus.

When arriving at the appointment, individuals are asked to bring the following:

- Copy of prior year return
 - Driver's License or State ID of the primary filers
 - Social Security Card or ITIN Letters for all taxpayers and dependents
 - Social Security Year End Statement
 - Bank information (routing and account numbers) for direct deposit or direct debit
 - Income documents
 - Individuals eligible for State/County Rebates or Credits– bring 2022 property tax bill(s) or rent information, out-of-pocket medical expenses (no over-the-counter or medical cannabis related expenses) and other household income
- Supporting documents for itemized deductions or credits

Pictured (top photo) Luna students Gavin Millard a junior from Juneau, Alaska and Nick Estacio from Sierra Vista, Ariz., talk with Student Services Advisor Pablo Hernandez about the 2023 spring semester, recently. The first day of spring semester classes started on Tuesday, Jan. 17 and the last day to register is Friday, Jan. 27; Las Vegas residents Kyle Conway and Michael Martinez are all smiles as they talk with Luna Community College's Interim Registrar Alicia Chacon, recently; (middle photo); Several individuals participated in Luna's call center where they reached out to students and assisting them in the admissions and registration process. Pictured (l-r) are Rick Baca, Paige Gowen and Shannon Ortiz; (bottom photo).





The CE Shop

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Luna partners with The CE Shop to provide an award-winning real estate education

The CE Shop's industry-leading courses and 100 percent online platform empower students to get their license and succeed in their careers.

Luna Community College is pleased to announce a new education and career resource partnership with real estate educator, The CE Shop. This exciting new partnership will provide our students with exclusive access to a one-stop-shop education platform featuring Pre-Licensing, Exam Prep, Post-Licensing, and Continuing Education packages for all 50 states and D.C.

Whether it's their industry-leading pass rates, 100 percent online courses, or their bountiful Agent Essential resource pages, this partnership is a valuable addition in

helping the students of Luna Community College and community residents gain an edge in the real estate industry. Partnering with The CE Shop not only offers students exciting new career paths, but it also attests to Luna Community College's dedication to diversifying and supporting our curriculum.

The CE Shop believes that top-quality real estate education enables students to pursue a myriad of career opportunities, from practicing as a residential real estate agent to working as a real estate investor – and beyond.

The launch week for this program starts on Monday, Jan. 30 through Sunday, Feb. 5.

For more information, please call Luna's contract education advisor Karen Wezwick at 5050454-5308 or via email at kwezwick@luna.edu.

You may also get more information at Lunaat.TheCEShop.com.



The Las Vegas Branch of the
American Association of University Women

announces a **scholarship opportunity** for women
at Luna Community College.

Scholarship will be awarded to the qualified candidate in
May 2023 for the
2023-24 Academic Year.

The [American Association of University Women \(AAUW\)](#) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Through scholarly recognition and its other programs, the Las Vegas Branch of AAUW encourages women to further their education to help themselves and their families become more productive citizens contributing to the good of their community.

This **\$1000 scholarship award** from the [AAUW Las Vegas branch](#) is intended to acknowledge the efforts of non-traditional women students at Luna Community College who are living in Las Vegas or surrounding communities; who have demonstrated that they are capable of and committed to earning an Associate's degree from the College; and who are involved in their community.

ELIGIBILITY:

- be a non-traditional female student, 24 years of age or older, or if younger, with children;
- be seeking an Associate's degree;
- have at least a 3.0 GPA for the two most recent semesters;
- have clearly defined educational and career goals;
- be currently enrolled at the LCC main campus in Las Vegas taking at least 12 credit hours (or equivalent) with a declared major; and
- have completed at least 24 college credits within the past five years.

APPLICATIONS are due by **May 1, 2023**.

Scholarship application forms may be picked up starting March 1, 2023
from **the financial aid office at LCC**.

Please contact Phyllis Ludi at (505) 429-0106 for further information.

AAUW Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Luna automotive students recently assisted a cosmetology student, whose car had broken down. Luna automotive instructor Gene Sandoval used it as a class project and had his students diagnose and repair the car. Pictured are automotive students Emiliano Vega, Patrick Fernandez Romero and Angelo Armijo. Sandoval said his automotive students "did a good job." For more information on Luna's automotive technology program, call Sandoval at 505-454-2590. The last day to register for the spring semester is Friday, Jan. 27



Instructors
Stephen
"Tommy"
Newkirk and
Allen Sanchez



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Register online at [Luna.edu](https://luna.edu)

Contact APHS@luna.edu or call 505-454-5303, for details.

luna.edu

HAVE YOU
ENROLLED FOR
SPRING
2023?



Enroll Now!

Spring classes start
Tuesday
Jan. 17

Last day to register is
Friday, January 27



Luna
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OFFICE HOURS:
8 AM - 5 PM



Call 505-454-5313