



Spirit of giving

Luna student nurses help brighten holiday for local families

A number of area families will have a brighter Thanksgiving holiday thanks to the combined efforts of El Centro Family Health and members of Luna Community College's Student Nurses Association.

The Luna SNA group collected and assembled 17 Thanksgiv-

ing turkey meal baskets and then partnered with El Centro to distribute the baskets to those in need.

"We'd like to give a big thanks to LCC Student Nurses Association," El Centro community health workers Jonelle Baca and Jeremy Estrada wrote in a letter.

"Seventeen of our patients and their families received full Thanksgiving meals ... We're truly inspired by your personal commitment to making a difference in these unprecedented and challenging times."

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Giving

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“We are very thankful to the members of SNA, donors and El Centro for allowing us to give back to the community,” said Kimberly Sena, a Luna nursing instructor and advisor to SNA.

“We would also like to thank Walmart for the donation of turkeys, the members (of SNA) for donating the fixings, and Carol Aragon, who donated money to purchase additional items.”

The SNA officers include Myranda Aragon, president; Nicole Abeyta, vice president; John Montoya, secretary; and Gemenia Wofford, treasurer. Other members are also Luna nursing students.

Founded in 1952, the National Student Nurses Association is a non-profit organization for students enrolled in associate, baccalaureate, diploma and graduate nursing programs. It is dedicated to fostering the professional development of nursing students.



Prior to the COVID shutdown, students made ACE (sometimes known as the ACE Lab) a popular gathering spot for studies and tutoring.

Campus community celebrates HLC news

Accreditation now free of sanctions

News of Luna Community College having its sanction-free accreditation restored by the Higher Learning Commission has been spreading across New Mexico in recent days.

The HLC official announcement was shared in a video announcement posted on the college’s Facebook page the morning of Nov. 19, as interim President Dr. Kenneth Patterson and Dr. Phyllis Martinez, chairwoman of the LCC Board of Trustees, revealed the news.

The college marked the occasion with a brief fireworks show that morning, as local fire crews were on hand to oversee it.

Multiple print media outlets — including the Las Vegas Optic, Albuquerque Journal and Santa Fe New Mexican — have reported on the

announcement, and KRQE-TV led its 10 p.m. newscast with it on Nov. 21. Area radio stations have also reported the news, with Patterson granting a fresh round of interviews on KSSR, KRTN, KNMX and KFVN this past week.

“After three years of sanctions, Luna is now free of sanctions,” Patterson said in the first of those appearances. “It is a chance for institution to look at specific problems identified by accrediting agency and fix those problems. ... Over the past three years we’ve gone through some fairly stringent work to ensure that Luna operates the way it should ... It’s not just one or two people; it takes the entire institution ... not only to correct issues but to show the plans we put in place are actually working.”

Spring registration begins

Spring 2021 registration is now under way at Luna Community College.

Early enrollment began on Nov. 16 and will continue through the end of the day Tuesday, Jan. 26.

Classes begin on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

In order to help ensure the health and safety of everyone in the campus community, the college will continue to offer most of its classes via online instruction. Registration — along with other student services and programs — will be conducted remotely.

Students are invited to visit luna.edu and click on the “How To Register” link for more information and instructions. An updated schedule of classes is also available at luna.edu.

Luna offers certificate and associate degree programs in allied health sciences, business, career and technical education, early childhood and teacher education, humanities, nursing and STEM. Tuition rates, starting at \$40 per credit hour, are among the lowest in the country.



Thankful

Luna set off a few fireworks on the morning of Nov. 19 to celebrate the lifting of sanctions by the Higher Learning Commission. Local fire crews were on hand to ensure a safe operation.



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



Luna Cares!

Samaritan House Holiday Drive

is collecting the following items:

- Hygiene bags that include toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, hand sanitizer, shavers
- Facemasks, face shields, sanitizing items, liquid soap, hand sanitizer
- Winter clothing such as socks, thermal underwear, beanie hats, gloves
- Non-perishable food items such as canned fruits and vegetables

Drop-off boxes are available in the Maria H. Paiz Administration Building, main hallway or you may drop off your items with Luna security at the top gate entrance. Your generosity is appreciated. Items will be delivered to the Samaritan House on Thursday, Dec. 17.

The Samaritan House assists people throughout the community.

Meet your ACE tutors

Luna Community College Academic Center for Excellence tutors are available to help students with various classes and subjects.

Luna students may contact ACE coordinator Ray Varela at 505-454-5306 or rvarela@luna.edu to set up appointments or ask any questions

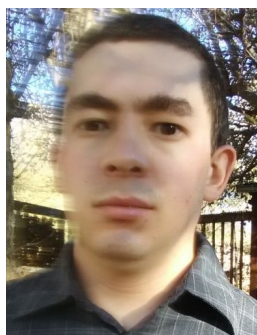
about ACE.

Here is a behind-the-scenes look at a couple of our ACE team members (third in a series):



Luna Light PERSONALITY PROFILE

ACE TUTOR: Sergio Hartshorne
HOMETOWN: Rociada, N.M.
SUBJECT(S): Humanities
OTHER JOBS: Media tech
EDUCATION: Robertson High School, New Mexico Highlands



What motivates you to tutor students?

I enjoy seeing their papers improve from one draft to the next.

Whom do you admire the most and why? President Barack Obama.

What is something about you that would surprise most people? People think I am very quiet, but I open up to most people after I get to know them.

FAVORITE MOVIE: "The Ghost and the Darkness"
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Dragonball Z"
FAVORITE FOOD: Spaghetti
FAVORITE SPORT: Rugby
FAVORITE HOBBY: Video games
FAVORITE SONG: "The Courage of the Knife" by Senses Fail
FAVORITE MUSIC ARTIST: Senses Fail
FAVORITE THING ABOUT LUNA AND/OR VEGAS: Awesome red chile.



Luna Light PERSONALITY PROFILE

ACE TUTOR: Auritha Roybal
HOMETOWN: Las Vegas, N.M.
SUBJECT(S): Mathematics
OTHER JOBS: Math instructor
EDUCATION: Luna Community College, New Mexico Highlands; working on master's



What motivates you to tutor students?

When I tutor students and the semester is over and they tell me that they no longer hate math!

Whom do you admire the most and why? Dr. Rita Surdi (LCC STEM instructor), because she not only knows mathematics inside out, but she cares for her students. She teaches her students that their education and future matter.

What is something about you that would surprise most people? I am covered neck to toe in tattoos.

FAVORITE MOVIE: "Sweet November"
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Lucifer"
FAVORITE FOOD: Spaghetti
FAVORITE SPORT: Baseball
FAVORITE HOBBY: Listening to music while enjoying the company of family
FAVORITE SONG: "Right Down the Line"
FAVORITE MUSIC ARTIST: The Manhattans
FAVORITE THING ABOUT LUNA AND/OR VEGAS: The people and the tight knit community

It's been a challenging time for all of us.

At Luna Community College, we can certainly attest to that. But smooth seas don't make skilled sailors. Sometimes you've got to go through tests to find out how tough you really are. Sometimes those tests make you realize what is truly important. They make you ...

STRONGER.

Luna is proud to announce that the college is once again accredited free of sanctions by the Higher Learning Commission. Our resolve to serve our students and our communities is **stronger** than ever. We are excited to help you pursue and achieve your dreams in 2021 and beyond. Whether you're seeking training to get into the workforce, working toward a higher academic degree, or simply wanting to broaden your horizons by learning something new, Luna is here for you. Build a **stronger** future; let's make it happen together.

SPRING 2021 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Classes start Jan. 19. Register through Jan. 26.

Tuition rates start at just \$40 a credit hour.

Visit LUNA.edu for details, or call

505-454-2500 or 1-800-588-7232.





Rough up the virus!

- Mask up to protect yourself and others
- Keep your distance — at least 6 feet
- Avoid in-person gatherings
- Limit trips and travel
- Use your phone and computer to stay in touch with family and friends
- Wash your hands frequently
- Disinfect high-use surfaces

Let's beat this thing together, Rough Rider Nation.



Know the Difference: Flu vs. COVID-19

Get a flu shot now!
Find a clinic:
www.immunizenm.org

Flu Symptoms

- **Fever*** or chills
- **Cough**
- **Sore throat**
- **Runny or stuffy nose**
- **Muscle or body aches**
- **Headache**
- **Fatigue (tiredness)**
- **Vomiting and diarrhea** (more common in children than adults)

*Not everyone with flu will have a fever.

COVID-19 Symptoms

- **Fever or chills**
- **Cough**
- **Sore throat**
- **Runny or stuffy nose**
- **Muscle or body aches**
- **Headache**
- **Fatigue (tiredness)**
- **Vomiting**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing**
- **New loss of taste or smell**

*Many people with COVID-19 do not experience symptoms

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
COVID-19 HOTLINE



1-855-600-3453

Available 24/7

NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH



Students!

Your ticket to many forms of federal student financial aid, the FAFSA is now available at fafsa.gov. Fill it out ASAP to get as much financial aid as possible.

Join our team and help us serve our communities!

Employment opportunities

Positions available at Luna Community College

FULL-TIME

- Dual credit and transfer coordinator ... opened Nov. 16, 2020 (INTERNAL LISTING)
- Career services advisor ... opened Nov. 9, 2020 (INTERNAL LISTING)
- Chief financial officer ... opened Oct. 29, 2020
- Institutional Effectiveness and Research director ... opened July 28, 2020; re-posted Oct. 8, 2020

TEMPORARY PART-TIME

- ACE tutors (multiple) ... opened Sept. 23, 2020

ADJUNCT (per course)

- Career & Technical Education — automotive instructor, Springer ... opened Nov. 21, 2019
- Career & Technical Education — welding instructor, Santa Rosa ... opened Oct. 31, 2019
- Career & Technical Education — CDL instructor ... opened August 28, 2019
- Career & Technical Education — collision repair instructor ... opened June 6, 2018



Most recent postings listed first. All positions open until filled unless otherwise noted. For more information on each position, please log on to our website at <https://www.luna.edu/jobs>



The Luna Light is a publication of the Luna Community College Office of Public Relations. To submit story ideas or items for consideration, please e-mail Jesse Gallegos, jgallegos@luna.edu, and Dave Kavanaugh, dkavanaugh@luna.edu.



This picture was taken on Wednesday near Sunshine in El Valle. Northern New Mexico is known for its picturesque scenery.

This file photo of a Luna graduation serves as a reminder to continue to strive and never give up on your aspirations.

*“Creating
Opportunities
for You!”*





Luna Community College thanks the City of Las Vegas and the public works department for placing a Luna registration banner on National Ave. Spring registration is ongoing and the last day to register is Tuesday, Jan. 26.



Bringing hope can be powerful

We live a world where many of us are hurting both on the outside and inside. But, we also live in a world where there are many who help those of us in need, a hand.

And this is what makes this world beautiful.

Many times going to church and lighting candles may not be enough. Sure we can pray for miracles, but at times we have to assist in making those miracles happen.

Luna Community College, thanks to our student senate, has a great opportunity to this. They have started a donation drive for our local Samaritan House. Keep in mind, that traditionally, the Samaritan House helps out those without homes. It's different today. Now they're reaching out to helping those with homes, but individuals that may be lacking enough resources to buy the basic needs for themselves and their families.

I have every confidence that Luna can and will step up in this worthy cause. It's unfortunate that so many go hungry in our community. This is a reality that we live in.

There are so many laws and policies that we live



By Jesse Gallegos
A Different Perspective

by, perhaps we should make laws and policies in our own hearts that no human being, especially the very young, the elderly and the innocent should never go to bed hungry.

Again, miracles are nice. I believe in them. Very much so in fact, however, I have come to realize it us up to us to move on certain issues within our society. We need to start meeting the basic needs of people around us.

We can't wipe every baby's or elderly person's tear away, but we can give a good effort in doing so.

How many of us, and I am to blame like the next person, see someone on a corner asking for help and not take the time to stop and offer a little something to them.

Or just as important, have compassion by sharing a short conversation with them.

How is it that we don't have pity and find a way to respond?

Many of the blessings I have received are undeserved. It is time for me to step up. And I am asking others to do the same.

Bringing hope can be a powerful thing.



Those people that are on campus can place their donation items in boxes inside the Maria H. Paiz Administration Building. Those who are off campus can leave their donation items with Luna security at the top gate. Donations will be taken to the Samaritan House on Thursday, Dec. 17.