

PRESIDENT'S SEPTEMBER 2025 REPORT

President – Dr. Rosana Reyes



LAMAR
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE



EDUCATION FOR ALL

Suicide Prevention Awareness

In a heartfelt effort to promote mental health awareness and foster a culture of compassion and connection, LCC and the Behavioral Health Team hosted the 2nd annual Suicide Prevention Awareness event, an impactful event dedicated to suicide prevention. Students, staff, and community members came together in a safe and welcoming space to engage in open conversations about mental health challenges, the importance of early intervention, and the power of support networks. The event featured educational sessions on recognizing warning signs of suicidal ideation, understanding risk factors, and learning how to respond effectively when someone may be in crisis. Attendees were introduced to a variety of local and national resources, including counseling services, crisis hotlines, peer support groups, and wellness programs. Interactive activities encouraged participants to reflect on their own mental health journeys and explore strategies for self-care, resilience, and emotional well-being. Speakers shared personal stories of hope and recovery, reminding everyone that healing is possible and that no one has to face their struggles alone. We also had the opportunity to hear from Mr. Anthony LaTour who lost his son Anthony to suicide 7 years ago. Above all, the event emphasized the importance of human connection; how a simple conversation, a listening ear, or a gesture of kindness can make a life-saving difference. It was a powerful reminder that reaching out for help is a sign of strength, and that together, we can build a community where everyone feels seen, heard, and supported.



Faith, Food, and Friends

The Yahweh Christian Club kicked off the school year with their first event, “Faith, Food, and Friends,” on Sunday, September 21st. Students and faculty came together to enjoy delicious barbecue, uplifting music, and meaningful fellowship in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. The event was a joyful celebration of community and connection, open to everyone—from lifelong believers to those simply curious about faith and seeking answers. The club is excited to continue hosting dinners and events throughout the year, creating spaces where people can connect, ask questions, share experiences, and grow together in faith.



EDUCATION FOR ALL



LCC Runnin' Lopes Golf Team Holds Strong in District 9 Standings

After a hard-fought effort, the LCC Runnin' Lopes finished in 2nd place at the Eastern Wyoming tournament, for the second consecutive week at the NPCC Men's Fall Invite. The team showed resilience and determination, and their performance continues to reflect steady progress in the Region IX competition.

Shatzer Shines as Medalist

Freshman Cody Shatzer led the charge, earning medalist honors with rounds of 69 and 75 (144)—edging out Eastern Wyoming's Troy Young by a single stroke (73-72). With this solo first-place finish, Cody now leads the District 9 individual standings with 21 points, four ahead of Eastern Wyoming's Jamie Lambert and Ben Brown (17 points each).

Strong Supporting Cast

Freshman Parker Shirola continued his impressive run, finishing 6th overall with scores of 76 and 73 (149). Despite missing the first event, Parker has climbed to 8th place in the division with 8 points.

Freshman Calvert Layne posted rounds of 77 and 80 (157) to finish tied for 11th, while Preston Buchner (77-87 = 164) and Preston Peters (84-85 = 169) rounded out the top five starters for LCC.

Team Results

- Team Score: 299-313 = 612
- Placement: 2nd overall





EDUCATION FOR ALL

LCC Agriculture Students Judge at Kiowa County Fair

Eads, CO — Nine agriculture students from Lamar Community College (LCC) recently put their animal science knowledge to the test while serving as judges at the Kiowa County Fair's round robin showmanship competition.

Representing LCC were (l to r) Kallie McMillan, Gracie Wilson, Kate Kissel, Jorge Ramirez, Bryce Roanhorse, Kross Smith, Pablo Vielma Sayago, Connor Ellis, and Lisset Arciga. These students traveled to Eads, Colorado, as part of their ASC 1100 Animal Science course and in affiliation with the LCC Ag Club. The round robin event required 4-H and FFA exhibitors to showcase their ability to handle and present a wide range of livestock, including beef cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, goats, and horses. The LCC students took on the role of judges, evaluating the exhibitors' skills and providing scores based on showmanship, handling techniques, and overall presentation in the ring. "This hands-on judging opportunity gives our students real-world experience in animal evaluation and reinforces the skills they've been developing in class," said Dr. Brian Gauck, LCC Ag Department instructor. The collaboration between LCC and the Kiowa County Fair not only strengthens ties between educational institutions and local agricultural communities but also provides valuable experiential learning for students pursuing careers in agriculture and animal sciences. LCC continues to promote opportunities like this for students to gain field experience, leadership skills, and community involvement through their Agriculture program and student organizations like the Ag Club.





PARTNER OF CHOICE

Lamar Community College Shines at the Annual 9/11 Parade

Lamar Community College had the absolute pleasure of participating in the annual 9/11 Parade on Saturday, September 6 held in remembrance of the lives lost on Sept 11, 2001. The LCC Softball Team led the charge by creating a vibrant float adorned with flags, balloons, and banners that honored the spirit of remembrance. On parade morning, members of LCC's staff, faculty, athletic teams, coaches and our beloved mascot, Lighting, laced up their walking shoes and joined the procession. They handed out water bottles, popsicles, and high-fives to the crowd, who responded with cheers and appreciation. Many attendees shared how much they enjoyed seeing the students out in full support. It was a beautiful display of unity and remembrance from the LCC community. Meanwhile, the Women's Basketball Team represented LCC at other 9/11 Tribute Ceremonies held at the Sand and Sage Fairgrounds, showing that our commitment to never forgetting.



LCC Joins DECA's Winter Coat Drive

Lamar High School DECA Club is kicking off its annual Coat Drive, and this year, Lamar Community College is proud to join the effort! Drop boxes have been placed at various stores around town, making it easy for community members to donate gently used coats. Once collected, the DECA Club ensures each coat is professionally cleaned and ready to be distributed to anyone in need. This partnership is especially meaningful for LCC, as many of our students, particularly those from warmer climates and international backgrounds who may not have appropriate winter gear. Thanks to this initiative, students and community members alike will have access to warm coats as the colder months approach.



PARTNER OF CHOICE

LCC Partners with CSU Extension and Local Experts for Colorado Wheat Field Trials

Lamar, CO — A collaborative effort is underway at Lamar Community College (LCC) as part of the Colorado Field Trials (COFT) wheat research program. Arosha LokuUmagiliyagi, LCC Agriculture Instructor, and Michaela Mattes, Area Extension Specialist, Colorado State University Extension, teamed up with local farmer and veterinarian Dr. Jensen Stulp and three LCC students from the AGY 1100 General Crop Production class to plant four different wheat varieties on a three-acre plot located at the south end of the LCC campus. This initiative supports statewide research focused on evaluating and improving wheat varieties suitable for Colorado's diverse agricultural conditions. LCC extends a special thank-you to Dr. Stulp for his dedication and assistance in completing the planting for this important research project.





ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Student Life Meet & Greet/Social Events at LCC:

On August 18, 2025, Lamar Community College kicked off the semester with a vibrant Student Life Meet & Greet/Social in the Student Union. New and returning students gathered to connect with peers, meet campus staff, and learn about upcoming activities and resources. The event featured light refreshments, music, and interactive games, creating a welcoming atmosphere to start the academic year with energy and community spirit. In addition, to support students as they began a new chapter on campus, welcoming information tables were set up in the Betz Building and Bowman Breezeway, offering fruit, yogurt, refreshments, and campus maps to ensure a smooth and enjoyable first day of class.

On August 19, 2025, Student Life and Academic Support service hosted a fun and welcoming Meet & Greet/Social event at the library featuring a “Sweet & Salty Treats” theme. Students had the chance to connect with tutors and peers in a relaxed setting while enjoying a variety of snacks that balanced sugary delights with savory bites. The event aimed to build community, encourage academic support, and kick off the semester with early academic connection and tasty treats.

On August 21, Student Life hosted a refreshing Ice Cream Social in the Todd Berch Hall Cafeteria, welcoming students back to campus. The event provided a relaxed and cheerful atmosphere where students mingled and enjoyed a variety of ice cream flavors and learned more about upcoming campus activities. It was a great opportunity for new and returning students to build community.





ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Serving Those Who Served: Lopes Basketball Team Sent a Hand in Supporting a Local Veteran

Coach Jaxon Autry and the LCC Runnin' Lopes Men's Basketball Team recently demonstrated the true spirit of community service by helping a local veteran move into his new home. This act of kindness highlights the team's commitment to making a difference off the court, showing that leadership and teamwork extend far beyond game day.

Sparrow House Ministries, which coordinated this event shared, *"We had the honor of working alongside Coach Jaxon Autry and the LCC Runnin' Lopes Men's Basketball Team to help a local veteran get moved out of his current home into a new home. What a great group of young men that were an encouragement and a blessing."*

This collaboration is a shining example of how athletics and community service can go hand in hand. Moments like these reinforce the idea that student-athletes can be powerful role models. Whether it's helping a neighbor in need or inspiring younger students, the Lopes are proving that being part of a team means being part of something bigger.

Go Lopes! Proud to see our athletes leading with heart and purpose.





EMPOWERED TALENT

Nathan Urias



Please join us in welcoming Nathan as the new LTC Trainee II at Lamar Community College. Nathan brings over 10 years of experience as an automotive service technician, specializing in diagnostics, maintenance, and repair. His background at Walmart includes a strong focus on safety, cleanliness, and delivering excellent customer service, along with mentoring new technicians and managing shop operations. Nathan's mechanical expertise, attention to detail, and commitment to reliability make him a valuable addition to our team. We are excited for the skills and dedication he brings to Lamar Community College and look forward to his contributions in supporting our mission.

Israel Rodriguez

We are excited to welcome Israel Rodriguez as the new Coordinator of Residence and Student Life at Lamar Community College. With a diverse background spanning law enforcement, youth leadership, and community engagement, Israel brings a strong commitment to fostering inclusive residential environments that support student growth, well-being, and academic success. In addition to experience in program development, crisis response, and staff supervision, Israel has served as a wrestling coach, graduated from the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy, and holds an Associate of Biblical Studies. He is also the author of *Common Enemy* and takes pride in his lifelong partnership with his wife.

Passionate about preparing students for life and helping them achieve their goals, Israel looks forward to contributing to Lamar Community College's mission of student engagement and holistic development.





EMPOWERED TALENT

Grace Wilson



We are excited to welcome Grace Wilson to LCC. Grace is a graduate of the Horse Training and Management program at Lamar Community College, where she earned her Associate's Degree in 2021. Originally from Ohio, she grew up riding at a small reining barn and was actively involved in her local 4-H club, competing in ranch reining. After graduation, Grace completed an internship at Warren Performance Horses in Franktown, Colorado. During her time there, she gained valuable experience showing high-caliber reining horses and further developed her skills in professional training and coaching. In late 2022, Grace returned to Ohio to launch her own business, Grace Wilson Performance Horses, LLC, specializing in starting horses under saddle, building strong reining foundations, and introducing young horses to the barrel pattern. In addition to her training business, Grace recently launched a photography and marketing company, Lucky Number 7 Media, combining her passion for horses with creative storytelling and branding.