New administrator wins dance competition

By Dalton Rhoades
Staff Writer

This past weekend the Greeley West Poms put on a great performance as they performed “Dancing with the Teachers” in the auditorium Saturday night. The event was a fundraiser for the Poms to fly to Florida and perform at Nationals. Each Pom was paired with a male teacher of their choice, and each Pom prepared a dance of their very own for both them and their dance partner to perform. With the overall theme of this year being hip hop, many interesting song choices were made to dance to. The winners of the event were assistant principal Mr. John Diebold and Savannah Lucio as they performed to “Tootsie Roll”. Diebold stated that, “Savannah was very nice to work with,” and stated that he was, “very excited about the program and to be a part of something, and to be more involved in the school.” This performance brought out the competitive edge in many of the teachers that performed as Cranson stated that the one thing he was absolutely sure about through the event was, “With Falter’s dancing at least I know I won’t come in last.” Cranson also

Science class collects waste data on school

By Lauren Miller
Staff Writer

New to Greeley West this year, Science Research Techniques is taught by Zach Armstrong and is designed to help students learn skills to be successful in any science environment. This class has developed a project to raise awareness for the waste produced by Greeley West students. Last month, the class collected data to see what students were throwing away and how much. They realized how wasteful students were and that many of the items being thrown away could be reused, recycled or prevented. They decided one of the biggest

Canned treats
Interact asks for donations

By Bryant Valverde
Staff Writer

On Saturday October 11, the Greeley West Interact Club met in the Greeley West parking lot. Each of the five members of Interact met there at 10 in the morning then separated into two groups. Both of these groups collected canned food. Each group went to neighborhoods such as Bittersweet and Covington Knolls. Both neighborhoods donated an abundant amount of canned food. The Interact Club called it “Trick or Treating for Cans.” After going door to door, the club accumulated more cans than what they expected. All of the canned food collected was donated to the Weld County Food Bank. Junior Dayna Rodriguez experienced her first ever trick or treating for cans. Rodriguez said, “It was really nice to get out of my comfort zone by going door to door to collect cans for the drive.”

Senior Kelsey Davisson knocks on a door while trick or treating for cans last Saturday morning.

Senior John Diebold gets his groove on with senior Savannah Lucio.
Counselors hold scholarship lunches

By America Monje
Staff Writer

Every Wednesday during lunch in room 305 counselors Ms. Marlene Rich, and ETS sponsor Diana Johnson do a scholarship searching luncheon for any seniors looking for free money.

Rich said that she sometimes likes to present scholarships available in Power Points, but most of the times she really gets into the nitty gritty and she sits down with students and uses Fast Web to help match them with scholarships.

Fast Web is an online tool that allows students to enter their grades, GPA, and ACT scores and then it matches them with scholarships that they are compatible with.

“The scholarship luncheons are so helpful, I didn’t know there were so many scholarships,” said senior Andrea Lopez.

The scholarship luncheons have an average of 15 to 20 students every week. “I think it’s the best way for me to reach students and it really gives me the opportunity to sit down and help them,” Rich said.

Every time we’re down there kids are working really hard on scholarship searching,” said Rich.

The luncheons are also available to juniors and not only can students find scholarships with this program but Rich also helps with college applications and letters of recommendation.

El Teatro readies show

By Craig Schwartz
Staff Writer

On Saturday, November 1st, El Teatro will be performing at the Union Colony Civic Center from 7pm to about 8pm. The night will feature works created and performed by the students themselves. Tickets will cost $7 for adults, $5 for students, and it will be free for children five and under. They will provide dessert after the show for no extra charge.

“These students have put a lot of time and effort into their performances,” said El Teatro advisor Jessica Cooney. “They have been preparing for this since the end of last year.”

They began working on the scripts at the end of last school year, and they began practicing and rehearsing this August. The show will be a product of all of their hard work, and it should be a night to remember for everyone involved.

El Teatro is a multilingual theatre company of about 30 students from Greeley Central, West, and Northridge High Schools who script and perform their own performances. Their works are based on their cultures, languages, families, and real experiences. They travel to different places inside District 6 to perform, and also hold a children’s show and a night show at the Greeley Central and West auditoriums. They also do two student matinees.

“These students have put a lot of time and effort into their performances. They have been preparing for this since the end of last year.”

- El Teatro director Jessica Cooney

Pancake meal makes syrupy return to staff

By Bryant Valverde
Staff Writer

Last week, Greeley West Interact held a teacher breakfast. The breakfast was held in the library during lunch to thank the staff for their dedication towards teaching the student body.

Each of the 20 members brought different supplies to help thank the staff. They took time from their 4th hour to decorate the library and get a head start on the pancakes. About 40 staff members managed to show up, get their food, and leave. Interact not only served pancakes but also fruit salads, cookies, strawberries, and many more goods. So many pancakes were made that they had extra left over. They were going so hard with the skillets that they managed to blow out some circuits as well. “I was very grateful of the students to do such thing for us considering we’re all so stressed out. It was definitely a nice experience to take some time off and have conversations with other staff from different departments.” stated teacher Ms. Kim Fisher.

Trick or Treat Street will hand out lots of candy

By Mario Hernandez
Staff Writer

Halloween brings out many great things that happen in Greeley West High School. This year Greeley West student council will be providing a Trick or Treat Street for younger kids. This event will be held next Monday.

Trick or Treat Street was built for the high school student to bring their little brother or sister to West. They can walk around, visit different rooms, and receive candy. Student council will have groups and will have a different theme in each room. Since Trick or Treat Street consists of younger kids, student council tries not to make it too scary for kids. This year student council was asked to give out healthier candy but aren’t not planning on it. They will have all around candy to give out.
Small things make difference

We as students need to work on making changes to our school. Although it seems like it would take a lot to make our school a better place to be, making small changes can make a remarkable impact.

Small things make a big difference whether we realize it or not. This could simply be holding the door for someone, or helping someone pick up their pencil that they dropped. Small courteous actions can improve someone’s mood, or make their day better than it would have been had you not done it.

As a school, we also need to work on the way we treat others. This does not go for the student body, but the staff as well. This means we should be respectful of others opinions, thinking before we speak, and being more positive. By adding positivity, we can work towards making everyone look forward to going to school.

Finally, by being more encouraging, we can not only help our school, but our community as well. There are many ways we can encourage others. This might be by starting a study group with your friends to help others with difficult homework, or joining a club together.

It doesn’t take a lot to make significant improvements, but if we put forth an effort as a school to make it a better place, there will be an improvement in our learning environment.

Disgusting decor

Clean up people!

Being a student at Greeley West High School I do expect it to be a clean place. It is gross to walk down the halls and see smashed food on the floor and even on the walls.

It is extremely disrespectful for students or faculty members to not clean up after themselves. We only have two janitors for the whole building. Yes, I do expect my school to be clean but I do not expect two people to clean up after thousands of dirty kids.

I feel that we need to hire more help or get students to pick up their mess. Children in first grade even know how to do it. Maybe the office needs to play “The Clean Up Song” off

Trash overflows the trash can in the girls bathroom.

of Barney. Comparing high school students to elementary school students is drastic but it’s the truth.

Spray painting over someone’s artwork, urinating on the floor in the boys bathroom and leaving hair products or make up in the sinks of the girls bathroom are just a couple examples of disgusting student behavior. Respect this school and grow up.

New IPhone is amazing technology

There are two phones today that are dominating the market. People are constantly debating on which one is the alpha producer. The Samsung Galaxy and IPhone are the two top phones on the market. I myself have an IPhone and think it is far better than the galaxy line. Apple is an outstanding company and pushes the cellular standards through the roof. There are a vast number of things you can do on the IPhone that are far more efficient than the Galaxy.

The IPhone started the finger print revolution with the 5s. Then instantly the Galaxy S5 came out with the same feature. Wow what a surprise! Though now the IPhones are becoming larger because the Galaxies were far bigger. The new IPhone 6 is about the size of the galaxay S5 and the IPhone 6+ is about the size of the Galaxy Note.

In a new trend, police around the US are beginning to wear body cameras.

These are hoped to increase officer and civilian safety and make internal investigations easier. Police in Washington, DC are among the first to do this, and they began to test them on October 1. They started with 165 officers, and they are trying five different models of cameras, ranging from

I think Apple is easier to use and is far ahead of Samsung. Soon Phones will be able to do unimaginable things, though I believe the IPhone will remain on top.

Personal cameras keep cops safer

In a new trend, police around the US are beginning to wear body cameras.

These are hoped to increase officer and civilian safety and make internal investigations easier. Police in Washington, DC are among the first to do this, and they began to test them on October 1. They started with 165 officers, and they are trying five different models of cameras, ranging from

Continued

Cop Cameras, Page 1

Spartan Pulse

Do you think the campus monitors should follow kids off campus?

Yes 20%

No 58%

I don't care 22%

How dirty are the restrooms?

A mess

Not too bad

Reasonably clean

What do you think of Spartan

Time now?

Good time for homework

Waste of time

I don't even go
Greeley West Pegasus performs at the first choir concert of the year on Wednesday October 8 in the auditorium.

Choir gives folky show

Over 200 people turn out to see various groups

By Riley Spight
Staff Writer
On Tuesday October 7 the Greeley West choir kicked off the performance year with their first concert. They have been practicing for this since Day 1 of school. Men’s, Women’s, Concert, Persephone’s, Pegasus, and the Spartones performed in the concert. Each class had 3-5 songs rehearsed. Overall 125 students were singing and around 200 people attended.

The theme was folk songs and there were a total of 18 songs performed. When asked what it’s like to prepare for a concert Ms. Paige Ecker stated, “We go over the songs piece by piece until we reach perfection.”

Tyler Reid had a solo in “Homeward Bound,” Brandon Haas and Jonathan Botello in “Tshotsholoza,” and Olivia Larocco in “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child.”

Olivia Larocco, who is a member of the Spartones and is a senior at West said, “Choir gives people a chance to show off a talent that other people might not know they have.”

The performance favorite was “Tshotsholoza” sung by Pegasus. It was an upbeat South African song of freedom that Ecker hand-picked.

Ecker said, “It was a very successful night and it was a good turnout.”

The next unified choir concert will be in December. The Spartones will keep a bit busier as they sing for middle schools joined by orchestra, jazz band and the Poms in November, for Run Out Concerts.

West’s orchestra performed the music from the movie “Braveheart”, topped off with the song “Braveheart” as the concert’s grand finale.

Violist Andria Garcia stated that, “Braveheart was our favorite song to perform and it was probably the audience’s favorite too.”

Overall, the concert was seen as a great success by the performers as well as the audience. The show was a great way for the orchestra to kick off the year and open the door for more fabulous performances this year.

Brentwood joins Spartan orchestra for performance

By David Sneesby
Staff Writer
Last Wednesday, October 8, the Greeley West student orchestra put on a concert with the Brentwood Middle school orchestra here in the auditorium at West.

From 7:00 to 7:45, music could be heard well outside of the auditorium walls as two orchestras combined to entertain the community. Although this was their first performance of the year, their months of practice clearly showed. The students masterfully performed several songs with professional quality.

Joining the high school students were the students of Brentwood Middle School’s orchestra performing their own set.

The concert was an opportunity for the community to see both schools as well as for younger students to learn from older musicians. The audience clearly enjoyed every song, evident in their raging applause following each piece.

The Spartones will keep a bit busier as they sing for middle schools joined by orchestra, jazz band and the Poms in November, for Run Out Concerts.

New Jazz Band makes debut with Sinatra music

By Dalton Rhoades
Staff Writer
The Jazz Band is directed by music teacher Chet Arthur at a concert last week.

The Jazz Band is directed by music teacher Chet Arthur at a concert last week. The band will play once more on December 15.
Every day I see the same thing during lunch – kids piling into cars to leave campus for lunch. I know for a fact that most of these kids are under the age of 18, including the driver. What this tells me is that there are several drivers out there violating their GDL (Graduated Driver’s License).

By law, when a teenager first gets their driver’s license, for the first six months they are not allowed to have any passengers (siblings and adults are excluded). This means none, nada, zero, zilch! After holding a valid driver’s license for six months (and not a day sooner), teenage drivers can have only one passenger. Not two. Not three. Not four, etc. This law came into effect after a deadly crash occurred in West Greeley about 15 years ago. The 16 year old driver had three passengers with him when he ran through a stop light and was broadsided by a semi-truck, killing them all instantly.

The 16 year old driver had just gotten his driver’s license two hours before the accident. The reason a GDL was put in place was that it was fact that passengers are a distraction to new drivers. By limiting passengers, it allows teenagers to focus on driving to make them safer drivers. Be a safe driver. Let your passengers walk or find another driver who can legally transport them.

-- Officer Todd Pillard

Persistent teacher helps Weld Food Bank earn huge grant

By Olivia Denovellis

Mrs. Rachel Hammer, an English teacher at Greeley West High School, promised the Weld County Food Bank that she would get Greeley West involved and voting for them in the contest that is put on by Walmart to get money for food banks across the country.

The contest is for sixty thousand dollars and can turn each dollar into six meals. Hammer has been getting Greeley West involved by voting and has helped the food Bank go from 25th place to 10th place on October 1st. Hammers goal was to get to the top 10 in the country.

Hammer had been getting the school involved by making each of her classes vote at the beginning of the class each day. The contest allowed each person to vote once a day. Hammer made sure it was announced every morning to remind the students and faculty to vote. She also made sure each Spartan Time class at Greeley West High School continued to vote every Wednesday and Thursday when they met.

With Hammer’s dedication, Greeley West ended up 10th in the nation at the end of the contest. Greeley West ended up with 5,527 votes and $60,000 being given to the Weld County Food Bank.

“I just have a heart for the people in need in Weld County,” said Hammer when asked what made her so passionate about this contest.

LULAC is back

LULAC at Greeley West High School is back! LULAC had been discontinued because the sponsors from last year were no longer able to do both El Teatro and LULAC.

LULAC has found a new advisor this year: counselor Mrs. Marlene Rich.

Senior, Felix Hernandez is very excited about LULAC coming back. “We are looking to get more people involved this year, as well as more diversity,” said Hernandez.

Hernandez also stated that LULAC will be helping out more with Student-Council-run activities this year. LULAC plans to help with Trick-or-Treat street this month, as well as the Big Give in November.

Assistant principal, Jeff Cranson stated that LULAC will be holding a conference at UNC on November 1.

--Olivia Denovellis

Check out the West Word in color on the Greeley West website!
Soccer shutout

By Kennedy Spittler
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday the final soccer home game was played for the Greeley West Boys Soccer team at District Six Stadium. Although it was senior night, the team lost 3-0 to Silver Creek.

“We worked hard and gave a lot of effort, but it didn’t go well for us,” stated junior Zac Bitton.

Coming into the game on Tuesday, the boys had a record of 5-6-2. After this sad loss for the Spartans, we go into the last game of the season against Longmont with a record of 5-7-2. It may not have been the ideal season for the boys soccer team, but they have many juniors that will hold up the team next year.

For some of the seniors, this is the end of their soccer career. Just like any other sport, the last home game was also senior night. Senior night included the recognition of the seniors and highlighting their high school career.

Each of the senior parents where also invited onto the field to join their children. It is undetermined whether or not the Greeley West boys soccer will win their last game.

Sianne Boyd/West Word

Football readies for big battle

By Malia Long
Staff Writer

The Greeley West Football Team played Friday October 10 against Adam City at Adam City High School. Greeley West won 44 6. It didn’t come as a surprise to the Spartan football that they would win against Adam City by so much. They knew if they played well that they would come out with a win. Darren Delacroix threw a touchdown pass on a trick play against Adam City. Senior Zach Lish had a fumble recovery. Greeley West team tried out new things on their offense such as 5 wide and they threw the ball a lot to prepare for a game that they may come as a struggle in the future. In the second half of the game, Greeley West was ahead enough that they put in their JV players.

“We’re doing well but have a lot of work to do because I think our toughest games are still ahead,” said Alex DelaCroix a senior here at Greeley West who also scored a touchdown at the Adam City game.

“We are a very close team and it has shown throughout the season. We work well together,” said Ernesto Plascencia, a senior at Greeley West High School.

Zach Lish got hurt in the first quarter of the game and ended up getting a quad strain, so Matthew Brunning another senior at Greeley West High School filled in for Lish.

The Spartans returned to action on Saturday night against Thompson Valley in a key Front-Range league match up. Results of that game were unavailable at press time.

The biggest game of the season will be this Friday against Longmont. The marquee match-up features two of the league’s top offenses and is the last home game of the year for the Spartans.
Girls basketball ready for season, new uniforms

By Taelor Shaffer
Staff Writer

At Greeley West High School, the girls’ basketball team is being rewarded with new equipment. Harper Sheets, one of the amazing basketball players, is excited to get new equipment her senior year. “We finally have a coach that is passionate about the game and actually cares about the needs of the girls’ basketball team,” said Sheets.
The team is receiving all new basketballs, basketball racks, water bottles, uniforms, bags and towels.
Being that West is huge on the athletics, this will bring in an even bigger crowd. As the girls start their season with fresh equipment they are all jumping with excitement. Practice starts on November 7 and the first game is December 4. As you can already imagine, they are counting down the days. “This will pump the girls up and we will have a successful season,” Sheets stated.

Softball wraps up second straight winning season

By Jolynn Barger
Staff Writer

Last Saturday the Greeley West softball team had their playoff games that ended their successful season.
The playoffs took place in Castle Rock, Colorado. The first game was at 10:00 am against Pomona, West lost 2-1 in eight innings. The Spartans had runners on second and third base with nobody out but failed to score. “We played really well,” said junior Kenlee Frank. “We lost because of the hitting while bases were already loaded.”
The second game of the day was at 12:45. They played Horizon and lost via the mercy rule. Earlier in their season West beat Horizon, however this time they weren’t able to pull it all together and bring home a win. The final score was 12-2.

“We gave up on ourselves after losing to Pomona,” Frank said.
The Spartans lacked intensity after the emotional loss and made some fundamental mistakes that had not been a problem for most of the season. Still, the team was proud of its accomplishments. “Overall season went pretty well. We had our ups and downs but it’s always good to have a winning season.” said Frank.
West finished the season 12-9, the second consecutive winning season for coach Don Wagner’s team. “We will lose some important seniors; if we work hard we will be just as successful,” said Frank. Wagner concurred. “It was a satisfying year due to going to the playoffs,” stated Wagner. “Now our goal for next year is to go further in playoffs.”

Physical Ed Students of the Month

Mr. Hanson
Mykalie Teets
Jaime Quezada
Mr. Stieb
Canaan Bernal
Tiauna Brown
Ms. Abbott
Sonya Rodriguez
Isai Cano
Ms. Gudahl
Trevor Killian
Elizabeth Coleman

There is no way you can underestimate the students from Greeley West because they will all prove you wrong, especially the girls basketball team. They have earned the new equipment and will definitely show that on the court this coming season.
Between $400 to $700.

With an increase in police brutality cases, these cameras are a great way to make a police officer who would normally choose to abuse their power think twice before doing anything unforgiving. It will also hold police who choose to abuse their power accountable for anything harmful they do or say. Had the officer who shot Michael Brown in Missouri worn one of these, the internal investigation and the protests would more than likely be over by now.

Not only will these curb police brutality and possibly save lives, but this will also help both police and civilians protect themselves from false accusations during their arrests, since the entire confrontation will be recorded. This, however, would create more work for the cafeteria staff by cleaning the trays and more work for the students by having to dump their trays after eating and stacking them.

On Thursday October 9, 2013 they sorted the trash again to see the differences. The results were, as expected, still extremely large. The amount of waste proved to them that changes need to happen. They plan to make some changes to improve these results and better the environment and school community.

From Cop Cameras, Page 3

From Science Project, Page 1

From Dancing, Page 1

Victoria Ochoa
Junior

Victoria Ochoa, a junior here at Greeley West High School, who is involved in International Baccalaureate program, IB Theater, Greeley West High School Poms team, Interact, National Honors society, and Parsippany Choir (women’s choir).

Ochoa is the treasurer for the Interact Club and Interact puts on the “Big Give” every year which will be coming up here in November. They are also having yet another pancake lunch, but this time it is for the whole staff at GWHS.

“The hardest thing about being involved is time management. It’s hard fitting everything into your schedule but always having something to do is a great distraction from school and the fact it is all in school makes school a lot more fun,” Ochoa said.

Ochoa hopes to be a teacher some day and has a 4.2 GPA on top of all her extra-curricular activities.

-Malia Long