Greetings Golden Eagle family! I am delighted to write my first message for the Eagle Eye. The last two months have been a busy and exciting time. I have met so many wonderful people, and I am grateful to the West Hills community for the many ways I have been welcomed to the Central Valley. I have delighted in discovering the local amenities, restaurants, and shops. And, being an aviation enthusiast, I am really enjoying the F/A18s flying overhead!

Several people have asked what my plans are for my first year as president. First, I need to spend time gaining an understanding of West Hills College Lemoore—our past, our present, and our previously developed plans for the future. Second, I am working with our Accreditation Committee to ensure that the college’s self-evaluation is written, board approved, and sent to our accrediting commission by January of 2017. Third, I am working with our shared governance committees to review our governance and planning processes to make sure that our resource allocations are tied to our long-term strategic planning. Finally, I will be looking for ways to incorporate technology to enhance our communication with students.

What I find most exciting is watching our new Student Union being built. I am thrilled to think how it might change the dynamic on campus. Students will have a beautiful new space to enjoy before, in between, and after classes. The Student Union will include a cafeteria, the college bookstore, and an area for our Associated Student Body. In addition, it will have a one-stop student services window that will provide a more convenient way for students to get answers to questions or access services that they might normally receive in the Administration Building. My hope is that students will want to spend more time on campus participating in clubs, studying, and making friends. We really want West Hills College Lemoore to be a warm and welcoming place where students thrive both in and outside of class.

In closing, please know how happy I am to be part of the West Hills College community. I am grateful for the significant accomplishments and ground work laid by our former president, Mr. Don Warkentin. His sudden passing in February was a blow to all of us, and it has been a very difficult time for our close-knit community. Don will be missed. My hope is that I can follow in his footsteps by successfully collaborating with students, faculty, and staff to lead us in the next chapter of our student success story. We have great new endeavors ahead, and I look forward to experiencing them with you!

Sincerely,

Kristin Clark

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“Take it one day at a time. Avoid being overwhelmed.” She took her own advice—managing to complete her bachelors, masters, and doctorate degrees while being a mom and an employee. Dr. Clark began her journey at a community college—where she had very little support. For this reason, she wants students at West Hills College Lemoore to have a strong support system. Although she came from an urban area to a rural one—she wants to make this local college as effective as possible when it comes to student success. During the interview with Dr. Clark, the importance of knowledge became evident as she stated, “Education is a door to give you freedom.” It opened doors for her to travel and to challenge a language barrier in Japan. President Clark’s travels included studying abroad in Europe for the sole purpose of expanding her understanding of diversity. In Dr. Clark’s words, “If you ever have the opportunity to travel—do it. It will change your life.”

Just as her life has changed, she wants to institute a movement of change for the college and its students. She plans to enhance the college by adding new and improved tools to mold students to be capable of handling the real world. Her first impression of this college was the welcoming smiles. This assured her that she had a place here at West Hills College Lemoore. Change is good. In order for WHCL to be seen as the best, it takes an intelligent woman like Dr. Kristin Clark. With the support of the administration, student success can be a reality. Progress has begun with the new motto, “Relentless pursuit of student success.” These words embody the devotion and commitment to the students here. We are fortunate to have a president who is determined to see students achieve greatness.

Fun Facts about President Clark:
- Loves Pasta
- Starbucks drink: Vente Americano
- Favorite movie genre: Comedy
- Dr. Seuss Quote: “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it’s not”
- Would like to visit: South America
- Baseball Team: Los Angeles Angels
ATD: Bringing the Dream Home

“When it is time to leave, make sure it matters that you were here.” —Wes Moore

This was my first time attending an ATD (Achieving the Dream—held in Atlanta, Georgia this year) conference and I didn’t know what to expect. I assumed there would be acronyms served with coffee and PowerPoint presentations boasting trends of student success—all true. What I wasn’t prepared for was the sense of community and passion that I experienced. To be in a room with roughly 2,000 other community college teachers and administrators, all sharing a common goal, was truly powerful. There was an overwhelming sense of oneness, this feeling that we all wanted to learn something new in order to run back to our home campus and make a difference. And fortunately for us all, there was plenty to learn. According to Tiffani Gonzalez, “Attending the Achieving the Dream conference was very enlightening and motivating. I feel a sense of responsibility to be a more involved voice for student success.” Among the major topics were data, reform, equity, achievement, and movement. During the breakout sessions, small focus groups would dig deep into topics directly pertaining to student success. In regards to one particular session, Joel Ruble had this to say, “An adjunct reading faculty, Karen Harding-Tasca, from Montgomery County Community College, during the plenary session on Faculty-Led Teaching and Learning, quoted Ralph Sockman, ‘The larger the island of knowledge, the longer the shoreline of wonder. ‘ Paraphrased - The more that a person knows about their world, the more appreciative and curious they are of and about it. This applies to the teaching function, as our task is to equip and light fires more than to fill buckets that might one day be emptied in some appropriate place and time. Teach a person to wonder and they cannot be deterred from knowing about their world.

Pastor Sockman was also theology faculty in 1950 at Union Theological Seminary, where Dr. Cornell West currently serves. He is noted in his pulpit work to have said the following: ‘The test of courage comes when we are in the minority. The test of tolerance comes when we are in the majority.’

One of the greatest aspects of the conference was the variety of learning opportunities. There was truly something for all forms of educators. According to Dave Bolt, “The most moving session I went to was listening to Wes Moore talk about his book and his life. He definitely has some polished communication skills!” Bolt continued by stating, “On the other hand, spending time with fellow staff members was the most valuable.” I can personally agree with both of these statements. Wes Moore’s presentation was nothing short of amazing—and spending time with fellow staff members was both educational and enjoyable. As a commuter from Clovis, I learned a great deal about the culture, students, and residents surrounding West Hills College Lemoore through multiple conversations with Sylvia Dorsey-Robinson.

On the final day of the conference, the West Hills College Lemoore attendees met to discuss implementation and there was an overwhelming sense of excitement and responsibility for what we had learned. When Jay Thomas was asked about his take-away from the conference he stated, “Education + persistence = opportunity.” Jay, like the rest of us expressed enthusiasm about bringing the gained ATD knowledge back to the Lemoore campus. Our next step is unpacking what we’ve learned in order to make it applicable on campus.

ATD -- Until next time in San Francisco 2017!
Welcome to ACE North, Room 273! My name is Shannon Turmon, and I recently came on as the fulltime instructor here in ACE North. In past years, our lab has housed and worked with students completing their GED. We’ve recently expanded and currently offer:

- Tutoring services
- SI leader assistance
- Placement testing support
- On-campus make-up test proctoring
- Continued GED support

We have multiple instructors and SI leaders here to help you. So if you need assistance writing a paper, working on test taking strategies, need some guidance on an assignment, or if you are interested or know of someone who is interested in completing his or her GED, please come by and see us!

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The Senate plays an essential role at West Hills College Lemoore—responsible for everything from: accreditations, degree and certification requirements, grading policies, to curriculum. Looking through the scope of our current Academic Senate President, Kurt Sterling, we see how much work is really done. The Senate President attends many meetings: including the Planning and Governance Committee meetings, the District Leadership Council meetings, and Board of Trustees meetings, just to name a few. Sterling was first elected as Senate President in 2010, serving a two year term and re-elected for another two year term in 2012. He took a brief hiatus when a medical emergency called him away but returned in the fall semester of 2015.

Sterling likes to work in the form of an upside down triangle - Wanting to hear what the staff has to say, what they want, and most importantly what they need. He is their voice. When asked what his favorite thing about the senate is he did not hesitate to respond, “The faculty get a direct vote on all things academic.”

Kurt Sterling plays a diverse role here at West Hills College Lemoore. He takes on large roles and jumps at opportunities to get involved. He has sat on the Budget Committee as well as the Technology Committee and most importantly showed his commitment to teaching students in the fields of Micro Biology, Human Physiology, and other various studies related to biology.

Many say...he’s just an all-around cool guy.
Counselors are People Too
Featuring: Tiffani Gonzales

When people think about counselors, the first thing that comes to mind is someone who is supportive and caring. What people tend to forget is that they are people too. Tiffani Gonzales has been a lead counselor at West Hills College Lemoore for eight years, yet still finds time for family. She has been married for two years and is the proud mother of twin boys. A few other things you may not know about her are: She...

- Loves going on trips to Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas
- Enjoys reading and reality television
- Graduated from Golden West High School in Visalia at 16
- Started out as a Business major, but later switched to Sociology

Tiffani loves her job guiding students as achieve their goals. And, advises students to see their counselor each semester to stay on track. Her parting words to students, “Don’t be afraid to advocate for yourself, and always ask for help.”

By Kelsey Meneses, Roberto Hernandez, Antonio Motano
Kassandra Jimenez, Karina Guevara

Drama on Campus

One thing every college student hates besides finals, due dates, and bad marks; is drama. Luckily, West Hills College is straying far from the dreaded territory of “he said, she said” and making a bold step toward the grand and lively tradition of theatre. Many of us know Professor Sandy Brown as our Performing Arts teacher, the face and voice of the beloved film appreciation class. What many may not know, is that he is also the Faculty Advisor of the new Drama Club. Indeed, the mere existence of a Drama Club was a shock to the students of West Hills. When we asked one hundred students if they knew about it, only twenty nine answered with a solid yes.

But Brown isn’t the only one looking to dramatize our school campus. Danielle Bellwood also takes an important role as the president and advisor of the club’s activities. As the first Drama Club on campus, Bellwood stressed the trials she faced on getting the club established. This was a process that took an entire semester and even now the club stays afloat by means of its own funding. However, students also play an important role.

It was the students who sought to take drama above and beyond the simplicity of an elective or academic pursuit. And their hard work has paid off it seems, for the club already sports a total of thirty members.

The club’s main focus however, is to inspire students to take an interest in theatre and tradition of the art. You can find the Drama Club meeting every Friday at 12:15 p.m, in room 861. However, not all of us are meant for the big stage. For those of us with cold feet or looking for some good entertainment, you can see the Drama Club’s production of “The Importance of being Earnest” in the same room from April 16-17, a dinner show for the cost of thirty-five dollars. Or keep an eye out for the group’s semi-annual L.A.R.P. (Live Action Role-play) sessions. An activity that started last October with a battle between werewolves and vampires. In celebration of all things dramatic, we offer West Hills College’s first ever Drama Club a standing ovation. Here’s hoping you guy’s break a leg.
RunTastic

By Jose Morales & Raquel Solorio

West Hills College Lemoore started 2016 with a fundraiser Run-4-Education, “Sockin’ It to the New Year” was held on January 23. There were 90 people that registered for the event but only 79 attended, and all participants received cool neon socks. At the end of the race they got a free breakfast with pancakes, yogurt, orange juice, and sausage prepared by our culinary department. They also enjoyed a fun lip sync battle, and a funky sock contest. The event was sponsored by Pacific West Bank and Go for it, who provided a timer. The purpose was to raise money. Half of the profits go to H.O.P.E. which is leadership building, Eagle Days, and other initiatives like 5C. The other half of the profits went to cross country and T.E.A.M. teach.

This event took a year of planning, and it was open to the whole community. Volunteer Angel Aguininga said “It’s a great opportunity to bring the community together.” About 30 volunteers helped prepare the event, some arriving as early as 6:00 a.m. The event took place at West Hills College Lemoore Eagle Arena with the option of running outside or on the indoor track. Contestants who chose to walk or run indoors had to go around 31 times to complete 5k. Those who ran outside followed Mr. Unzeta on his bike leading through the muddy trail, and those who ran 10k had to run it twice. The event raised almost $3,000 and hopes to double the profit next year. The college plans on making this an annual event, held in January or February.

The Sound of Silence

by: Morgyn Lawson

Hello darkness my old friend. Hear that? Me neither. That silence is the lack of music on our campus. We do not have a band class or choir club. Music lacks recognition on our campus and we should give it a voice. ASB has been putting on a talent show that helps showcase our more gifted students on campus, but it is not enough. We have so many talented students and nowhere for them to express themselves artistically, while sharing creative ideas. I think it is time we, as a campus, take the brass by the horns. *mic drop*

(The Sound of Silence - Simon and Garfunkel)
Graduation Petition:
No Need for Repetition

BY Marcos Gallardo, Victor Holguin, Darnell Ervin, & Morgyn Lawson

For the students at West Hills College Lemoore, graduation has a lot of preparation you may not realize, such as who is eligible, selection of valedictorian/salutatorian, and seating on the day of the ceremony. There is one task that students must do in order to receive their certificate/degree. That is-to petition.

A petition is an action that should allow a person or group to be able to achieve anything. Graduation is nothing to be intimidated by. It is every student’s dream to walk down the stage, get their name called, and receive their document that represents their hard work. This semester (spring 2016), last day to petition is March 11 to graduate. Whether first time graduate or those graduating again for certain degrees and/or for transfer, remember this date. Go to your West Hills portal and look at the calendar on the right side of the screen. The website lists important events, holidays, as well as the petition deadline.

REMEMBER THIS DATE. DO NOT LOSE YOUR CHANCE TO GRADUATE!

Spring Rolls - (Vegetarian)

Ingredients:
- 1 1/2 cups grated Carrots
- 4 garlic cloves chopped
- 1 tsb ginger
- 1 cup kale chopped
- 1 cup cabbage chopped
- 2 scallions diced
- 1 cup Shiitake mushrooms diced
- 1/4 yellow onion diced
- 1 tsp coconut oil
- 1 tsp rice vinegar
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 pack spring roll wrappers

Directions:
- Mix all ingredients into a bowl (minus the wrappers)
- Spoon ingredients into the wrappers
- Roll and cook on a pan with vegetable oil
- Serve with soy sauce
February is Black History Month, but here on West Hills College Lemoore’s campus, we like to think of it as Diversity Month. This year, the college celebrated with an educational and entertaining lineup of events. The first event to kick off the month was on February 3. Students and faculty celebrated the beauty of diversity at the “Just Decide To Make A Difference” panel breakfast and lunch. While all of the participants were from vastly different walks of life, they all had one thing in common: overcoming adversity through education. Panelists encouraged those listening to not only accept differences, but to embrace and appreciate them. David Michael Rengh shared about growing up poor in the projects of Chicago with disabilities, including colorblindness. But instead of letting his disabilities hold him back, he accepted them as part of who he was. “I was colorblind for a reason. I didn’t care what color you were. It didn’t make a difference,” Rengh stated.

February 18 marked the 11th annual Gospel and Gumbo, an event that helps bring people together with a combination of guest speakers, music and a helping of creole cooking. The atmosphere was warm and inviting, while the mouth-watering aroma of fresh gumbo and rice filled the Golden Eagle arena. One of the guest speakers was retired Kings County Sheriff Chris Jordan. He spoke about how when he was growing up, his mother had a huge impact on his life. Near the end of his speech, Mr. Jordan stated two things that everyone should take to heart: “The things you do in your present affects what you do in the future,” and “Just decide to make a difference.” On February 24 the campus clubs promoted and encouraged club growth through Black History themed booths, including a 1920s style jazz booth hosted by the Drama Club. The art students also held an exhibit with themes of African-American roots, racism, adversity, and cultural diversity.

Beware—if you read a summary of this film, you will get the wrong impression. At a glance, it looks like genre fiction—to be honest, it sounds a lot like a horror movie. This is anything but the truth. Room is a wonderfully crafted drama—literary fiction. The acting is phenomenal. The cinematography is superb. It’s a film where you just can’t look away. This is powerful, emotional, and new. If this film doesn’t put tears in your eyes, you should probably stick with Hunger Games or Twilight. Room is available at Redbox—so make it happen.

Score: A+
#TheOscarSoWhite

By Kong Vang

The Academy Awards: the trophy of all trophies—Award for the Best Actor, Best Supportive Role, Best Director and etc. Unfortunately, there are very few winners but many nominees. The majority of winners are white and only one person of color gets an Oscar every couple of years or so, since Hattie McDaniel had won Best Supporting Actress in “Gone with the wind” in 1940. There have been only 32 black winners since that time. The question is, why so few? Or is it that the majority involved in films are white? Lack of diversity is what social media is claiming, from the tweets on twitter to the LA TIMES. With more diversity, it will create an opportunity for a person of color. Although most winners of an Oscar are white, there are people of color who have won. Statistics show that the percentage in black to white ratio is unbalanced in the film industry. There is a double standard for the film industry just as in any other organization.

Give your thoughts and opinions with a tweet #OscarSoWhite #WHCL #EagleEyeExpress

Here’s what people are tweeting thus far:

Noel hidalgo @noneck
“Hail, Caesar is SO white. It appears there weren’t ANY people of color in the 1950s LA #OscarSoWhite

Sin’s Beggar @SinsBeggar
“Outrage at Oscars’ lack of diversity. Silence at the #ImageAwards lock of…I guess diversity is a one way street” #OscarSoWhite

Tanzina VegaVerified account@tanzinavega
“Opportunity” key word of the night.” #OscarsSoWhite

SecureOurBorder@yobynnad1127
“I have a dream...that we will not be (handed) awards simply because we are #black. We should earn them” #OscarSoWhite

EagleEye - Ad Space

Business Card = $30
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Quarter Page = $100
Half Page = $150

For more information contact David Gejeian
davidgejeian@whccd.edu