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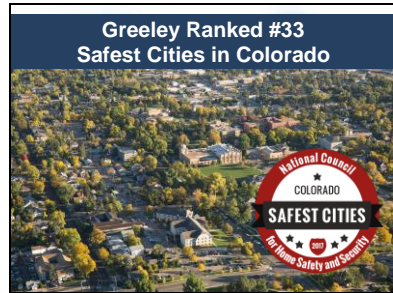
**At each Council Meeting, we recognize the people, organizations and businesses that make Greeley Great.** Tonight it's my turn to announce the recognitions. I'll start with a quote, "If you belittle what you have, it becomes less. If you appreciate what you have, it becomes more." With these announcements we are appreciating the good work of our residents, showing support for their efforts, and encouraging everyone to share the word that Greeley is Great.

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Jewelers for Children has awarded a \$20,000 grant to Greeley's Court Appointed Special Advocates Program, also known as CASA (cah-suh). The grant will help recruit and train an additional 15 volunteers and serve at least 37 new children. CASA volunteers, who serve more than 200 Weld County youth each year, work to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in court.

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Greeley has been ranked #33 on the 2017 Safest Cities in Colorado list by the National Council for Home Safety and Security. The ranking is based on the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics.

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Students at Centennial Elementary were awarded a [KidsGardening.org](http://KidsGardening.org) Grant for 2017. The school, one of 20 out of more than 500 that applied, received an award package that included a raised bed, growing bag, High Mowing Seeds, garden curriculum books, berry plants, and more. Since 1982, KidsGardening.org has awarded over 2.9 million dollars to youth gardening initiatives at schools, nonprofits, and youth programs across the U.S.

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Kudos to sixty employees at the Weld County Department of Human Services' Child Welfare office for receiving the Colorado C-Stat award. County staff received the award for their speed in assessing child welfare, in cases involving abuse and neglect. C-Stat focuses on and improves performance outcomes within the Colorado Department of Human Services. These employees not only outperformed the state average, they also were one of only six county Human Services Departments in Colorado to receive C-Stat awards.

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Congratulations to Greeley Central High School State Wrestling Champs Josh Nira and Andrew Alirez. This is Andrew's 2<sup>nd</sup> state wrestling championship. Their wins also helped place the team in 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall.

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Congratulations to Greeley's Syntax Spirits Distillery for receiving their second Good Food Award. This year the award was given for their Perky Pepper green chili infused vodka. Good Food Award recipients push their industries towards craftsmanship and sustainability while enhancing our agricultural landscape and building strong communities.

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North Colorado Medical Center, a Banner Health facility, is a recipient of an *America's 50 Best Hospitals, 2017™* award by Healthgrades. This is the third consecutive year NCMC has received the designation and been ranked in the top 1% of 4,500 U.S. hospitals. Over the past few years, NCMC has also been named one of America's Top 100 Hospitals in Pulmonary Care; Critical Care; and received eight 5-star quality ratings. Earlier this year NCMC was also recognized as a Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence.

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Congratulations to Northridge High senior Adam Smith for placing 1st in Computer Aided Design at the Colorado Technology Student Association State Competition. He now moves up to the national competition in June. Overall, the Northridge team placed 2nd in the small chapters category. Way to go Grizzlies!

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Aims Community College students were top performers at this year's Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts. In the two-year/small school category, Alexa Maxey from Greeley won first place for her radio story: "Finding Healing, Choosing Joy." Lisa Berndt took second with "Bullying through a Child's Eye" and Anna Hunt earned third place for "An Underdog Story." The Broadcast Education Association is an international academic media organization that drives excellence in media production and career advancement.

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