

R • I • O • B • L • A • N • C • O Herald Times

Vol. 135, No. 24 ♦ January 16, 2020 ♦ theheraldtimes.com ♦ \$1⁰⁰

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WINTER FUN ...



The Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District and Colorado Parks and Wildlife hosted Family Ice Fishing Day on Jan. 11 at Lake Avery. The fish were biting well, with several participants catching multiple fish. Ninety-six people participated in the event, which featured lunch served by the Lions Club and a raffle that distributed 36 prizes.

COURTESY PHOTO



COLOWYO PHOTO

Mining operations at Colowyo Coal Mine will cease by 2030 following a decision by owner Tri-State Generation and Transmission. Of the current 219 Colowyo employees, 46 live in Rio Blanco County. The mine has been a steady source of jobs and revenue for more than 40 years.

Colowyo closure will impact 46 Meeker-area employees

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | The announcement from power wholesaler Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association that they will close Colowyo Mine and the Craig Station power plant within the next 10 years sent shockwaves through the region last week.

For more than 40 years Colowyo has been a steady employer and source of good-paying jobs and tax revenue for Rio Blanco County. The loss of tax revenue from the mine will be felt in 2020 with the move to the Collom Pit, which is located entirely in Moffat County, according to RBC Assessor Renae Neilson. In 2019, estimated tax revenue to the county from Colowyo is \$145,717. The eventual loss of tax revenue is not where the biggest impact will be felt, according to Neilson. "We'll see it in people. This is going to hit people," she said.

The announcement comes on the heels of approval to expand operations to the Collom Pit, which was supposed to extend Colowyo's operations for another 35 years. Instead, the mine will cease production in, or by, 2030, and shift to renewable energy sources like wind and solar.

Tri-State announced its intention to "work with the legislature, our employees and the communities in Moffat and Rio Blanco counties to plan for and support the transition," according to CEO Duane Highley.

Colowyo currently employs 219 people, 46 of whom live in Meeker. RBC Economic Development and Public Relations Coordinator Makala Barton issued a statement on social media shortly after the announcement which reads, in part: "We are deeply saddened by the announcement from Tri-State

regarding their intention to close the Colowyo Mine and Craig Station Power Plant. Tri-State employs just under 50 Rio Blanco County residents and we realize the economic impact this will have countywide with an even greater impact on our friends in Moffat County. We feel fortunate that as a county we have actively had our eyes and actions focused on diversification and sustainability for several years. This news doesn't change that goal, but solidifies the need for continued momentum locally and regionally."

WhiteRiverElectricAssociation

with the goal of maintaining rates as it did in 2020.

"White River will work with Tri-State in their efforts to support employees and our communities over the next several years as well as work with Tri-State to develop regional replacement generation that provides reliable and affordable energy for our members," Michalewicz said.

U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton (R-Cortez) issued a statement in response to the announcement, placing blame on Governor Jared Polis and legislation enacted under his administration. "The closure and loss of jobs is the direct result of the State Legislature and Governor Polis's policies passed in 2019. Instead of implementing a responsible all-of-the-above energy plan that relies on free-market innovation and technological advancement to drive cost and demand, Governor Polis and State House Democrats forced the heavy hand of government to manipulate the market, end a source of affordable energy production, and kill jobs. After all of that, Colorado will remain connected to the main power grid which will continue to rely on coal generation from other states. This loss of these jobs is on the Governor's hands and on each of those that voted for his plan. They should be forced to look these impacted families in the eyes and explain to them why they think their livelihoods are not important enough to save."

Tri-State closed its coal-fired power plant in Nucla, Colorado, in September, two years ahead of schedule. While legislative and regulatory measures definitely play a role in Tri-State's decisions, coal production and profitability has been in decline nationwide since 2005.

(WREA) General Manager Alan Michalewicz expressed concern for the employees, as well as other impacted individuals and businesses, in a written statement to the Herald Times.

"This announcement has a significant impact on our community and our members," Michalewicz said. WREA buys power from Tri-State, and the Colowyo Coal Mine has been one of WREA's largest industrial customers. According to WREA, which has a long-term power requirement contract with Tri-State through 2050, Tri-State's Responsible Energy Plan will not increase wholesale electric rates. WREA has stated it will continue to work to manage its costs and loads

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association 'Responsible Energy Plan' was released on Wednesday, Jan. 15. The company's stated goals include:

1. Reducing emissions
2. Increasing clean energy
3. Increasing member flexibility
4. Extending the benefits of a clean grid
5. Committing to community and employees
6. Looking forward to a brighter future

Read the full plan at <https://tristate.coop/sites/tristategt/files/PDF/Responsible-Energy-Plan/Tri-State-Responsible-Energy-Plan.pdf>.

COUNTY BEAT

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

RBC | County Planner Leif Joy updated the Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners Tuesday on current projects during a work session prior to the first meeting of the new year. The Sleepy Cat Minor Subdivision off CR 8 is "ready for signatures," Joy said.

Joy also told the commissioners there's "some oil and gas stuff happening downriver" and preliminary planning for a new solar farm is underway as well.

"It's a big rascal," Joy said, indicating the footprint for the solar farm may be close to 1,000 acres. Asked who the solar farm owner is, Joy said it's a third-party company and he doesn't know the owner. "It's similar to the one approved two years ago. I'm not sure who they'll be selling power to."

Nita Smith of Community Counts updated the commissioners on the organization's continued efforts to supply members with up-to-date information about industry activities. According to the Community Counts website, their mission is to "offer residents a timely resource for open and respectful dialogue when they have issues, concerns or questions relating to the energy and extraction industries operating in Garfield, Mesa and Rio Blanco Counties."

Representing the Meeker Lions Club, Dale Smith shared the club's plan to replace playground equipment at the school administration building's playground on Sixth Street. The Lions Club installed equipment on the playground 25-30 years ago, Smith explained, when the building housed the kindergarten and preschool classes. Last fall it was determined that the equipment was now unsafe and needed to be removed.

The Lions Club has done the

ground and drainage work to prepare for replacing the playground equipment, and is seeking funding and public input as to what residents would like to see installed there. Comments can be submitted to the club's Facebook group page.

The playground space is popular with residents because it's well-shaded.

The commissioners said they want to wait until the fall grant cycle before considering donating to the project, and suggested that the project should fall under the auspices of the recreation district.

Smith said the rec district has "agreed to give guidance" in regards to inspecting the equipment, but the property belongs to the school district. The school district doesn't have the funds to replace the equipment, but they have signed a letter promising to inspect and maintain any new equipment installed.

The total cost for the project is estimated at \$25,000 to \$30,000. The club has raised about \$5,000 so far that's been set aside, and has some contractors who've agreed to do in-kind work for installation.

"The community is behind this. We need to get the funding," Smith said.

Money raised by the Lions Club is "100% given back out." Club overhead is covered by membership dues. Smith said the club hopes to raise the funds by Sept. 1.

In the regular commissioners' meeting, the board approved or appointed:

■ A final version of bylaws for the Columbine Park Advisory Board

■ Rector as board chair and Si Woodruff as chair pro temp.

■ Woodruff as the e-911 board member for 2020, alternate to the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado, and the county's representative to the Northwest Workforce group.

■ Gary Moyer as AGNC representative.

■ Rector as county investment policy committee member and representative to the Northwest Colorado Transportation Planning Commission.

■ Appointed Laura Smith as representative to the County Health Pool; Todd Starr as county attorney; Janae Stanworth as budget and finance director; Dave Morlan as road and bridge director; and Barbara Bofinger as Department of Human Services director.

■ Approved a liquor permit for the Meeker Arts and Cultural Council's Galapagos Dinner and Silent Auction on Feb. 8

■ Approved a \$500 contribution to the CNCC Aerospace Summit which will be used to sponsor food for the event next week in Denver, where CNCC will be meeting with aerospace industry representatives about the possibility of combining or facilitating cooperative projects with the college.

The board discussed a possible waiver of landfill fees for specific projects, specifically property owner Melinda Parker's request for a waiver for the demolition of apartments she owns. While Woodruff said he feels projects like Parker's should be supported, Rector and Moyer were concerned about setting precedents for "special considerations" and said commercial landfill fees were reduced from \$58 to \$40 a ton as of Jan. 1, 2020.

"That's where I'd just as soon stay," Rector said.

■ Opened bids for panels at Columbine Park, with Meeker General Mercantile's bid coming in below Rangely True Value by approximately \$500. The commissioners will award the winning bid next week after review.

■ Approved a \$48,000 contract with Visual Lease Services for oil

▶ See **COMMISH**, Page 2A



Saturday: 30s/10s Cloudy



Sunday: 30s/10s Mostly Cloudy



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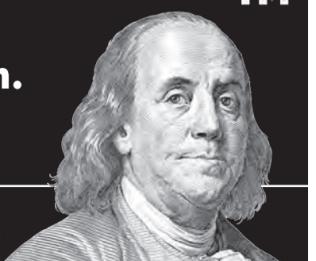
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HT

Ducey appointed to RSD board

By **ROXIE FROMANG**
Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I The Rangely School District Board of Education called a special meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 7. Samuel Tolley, Jason Cox, Sarah Nielsen, Todd Low and Superintendent Matt Scoggins were present at this meeting. The only business at this meeting was to interview the candidates who applied to fill the vacant board position and make the appointment. Casey Ducey and Ryan Torsell were the only two candidates who applied.

The candidates answered the following six questions:

What motivates you to want to become a board member?

Ducey: "I'd like to continue to serve the community. I have children in the schools, and I think it's important to have parents on the board. In two years, I don't quite think you learn anything, and you need a little more time to grasp everything."

Torsell: "Participation within the community and I also have kids in the school district. I have one kid that deals with BOCES substantially and is on an IEP. Overall I think the school district is doing a great job and I would just try to continue that tradition."

What do you see as the board's roles and responsibility?

Torsell: "To be a voice for the parents, the community, and the teachers of the district. To be a good example to the students and try to do volunteer work. Be accountable, responsible, be active, and show

up to the meetings and educate yourself."

Ducey: "To ensure the kids and teachers have the right schools to do their jobs. Make sure that district money is spent appropriately. Make sure you are there to ask and answer any questions throughout the community pushing towards the right person if they cannot find that answer."

What qualities and behaviors should board members exhibit?

Ducey: "Be involved in the community and schools. Make sure that you are visible throughout the district; going to events and games. Answer any of the parent's questions or concerns. You are the voice for the community in the school district."

Torsell: "Good character including honesty and integrity. Be available and make sure the community knows where you're at and be willing to talk to them. Whatever their concerns are make sure they are addressed at the board level if needed."

What kind of relationship should board members have with their community, parents, and families?

Torsell: "Make sure that you are honest, have good character, and integrity. I think one of the biggest things is to be approachable and make sure that you aren't intimidating people. Have an open-door policy. Be ready and available."

Ducey: "You should listen to what people have to say. You need to be out there especially around the schools when you can. Be the voice and ears for what the concerns are."

How can you contribute to a successful board meeting?

Ducey: "I believe having new and fresh ideas. I have old school values. Be here and be part of the community."

Torsell: "Study the agenda. Follow the rules from the state. Try to fill yourself with as much knowledge as you can about whatever topics are coming up at the next meeting or whatever you have heard around the community. Make sure the district is doing the right things to help the students learn."

What are the basic requirements for a successful school board membership?

Torsell: Be a registered voter, be able to attend the meetings, and be a liaison for the community, students, and teachers."

Ducey: "Be there for the teachers. The students and teachers are the most important thing I believe. Do whatever you can to make the year successful for the teachers and students."

Tolley asked the board members if they had any questions. Low asked if there were any concerns or issues in the school district, within our control, that we could fix or remedy? Anything that you see that could be better?

Torsell: "As of right now I don't. Obviously funding and pay scale is out of the boards control and are going to be there. As far as personnel and what's going on in the district to my knowledge is going well. It hasn't always been like that for me but as of right now I think it's pretty darned good."

Ducey: "I'd like to see and get the appropriate teachers in. We have such a hard time bringing in teachers. I know we have tried to do certain things to bring them in, but money is the biggest thing we deal with trying to pay the salary."

During closing statements Ducey said "I felt like my two years here was cut a little short. It takes longer than two years to understand this whole process and how things work. I feel like I need more time to understand how policies and how everything comes together. I would like another opportunity to continue. Torsell said "I'd love to be a board member with you guys but at the same time I believe Casey is a great advocate as well. I'll respect your decision either way but, in my eyes, there is two good candidates and you're going to win either way. Thanks for the opportunity and keep plugging away."

Tolley thanked both the candidates and stated that he and the board appreciated them stepping up before the official appointment was made. The board agreed collectively that both candidates would be an asset to the school district. After some open deliberation and concern about adding a third new board member (joining Low and Nielsen in their first year) or take a seasoned board member Low moved to appoint Casey Ducey to the vacant position until the next regular school board biannual election in November 2021. The motion for appointment was seconded by Cox and all board members voted for Ducey's appointment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

COMMISH: senior program 'safe'

► Continued from Page 2A

and gas property evaluation.

■ Approved a \$24,720 agreement with ValueWest for commercial property reappraisal in 2021 for the assessor's office.

■ Approved a cooperative service agreement/work and financial plan with USDA wildlife services not to exceed \$15,016 to continue mitigation of nuisance wildlife.

■ Approved a service agreement for a printer/scanner for the building department not to exceed \$1,540.

■ Approved the Rangely airport maintenance and remarking project in an amount not to exceed \$39,250.

■ Approved a request for reimbursement for the Rangely Airport from federal and state grants totaling \$18,191 and a request for reimbursement for the Meeker Airport/Coulter Field totaling \$11,734.

■ Approved a change order for the agreement for services with Dave Stewart for building inspections increasing the not to exceed amount by \$4,000 to a total of \$8,465.

■ Approved a contract that will "get us on the state Centurylink contract to get state pricing," according to Stanworth, a move that will cut telecommunication bills with Centurylink "approximately in half."

The board approved four resolutions Tuesday: the multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan; designated "any state bank or any national bank defined as an eligible public depository and any investment pool trust fund" as depositories of Rio Blanco County funds; designated the *Rio Blanco Herald*

Times as the official newspaper for county publications required by state law; and established administrative office hours for 2020.

During public comment, Mona Avey asked about comments made during the last BoCC meeting in Rangely about funding for the senior nutrition programs (White River Roundup and Chuckwagon) wherein it was suggested that contracting with local restaurants for the meal program might be more cost-effective. Commissioners Rector and Moyer said they fielded numerous calls from concerned residents after that meeting.

"We're looking into some other avenues for facilitating that program, but your programs are safe," Rector said. "Right now nothing's going to change."

"The Chuckwagon program is safe," Moyer said. "I don't think any of us are looking at doing away with that program. As an elected official it's the responsible thing to do to look at the costs. We're just trying to be fiscally responsible."

Wildlife Services officer Justin Ewing said U.S. Fish and Wildlife will conduct a consultation to determine possible restrictions in the area where a pack of wolves has been confirmed in northwest Colorado. Because wolves are on the endangered species list, U.S. Fish and Wildlife will come up with an area with rules to govern "how we do business as an agency plus how private landowners do business with their livestock," Ewing said. Until wolves are delisted from the Endangered Species list they are federally protected.

The next BoCC meeting will be Jan. 21 in Rangely at 11 a.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ **Meeker Public Library Book Club** will meet Monday, Feb. 10 at 1 p.m. to discuss "At the Water's Edge" by Sara Gruen. All are welcome to join in the fun.

■ **Join WRBM Friday, Jan. 24 for Vernal Theater Live!** for a performance of "The Odd Couple." \$15 per person, will leave the rec center at 4:30 p.m. Bring money for dinner. Sign up deadline is Jan. 16, 10 person maximum. Call WRBM at 970-675-8211 for more information.

■ **Works in Progress** Jan. 31 from 1-4 p.m. at the Meeker Recreation Center MP Room. Bring your works in progress—needlework, crafts, miscellaneous projects—to get something done and enjoy the company of other crafters. FREE! ERBM Recreation & Park District 970-878-3403.

■ **The Rangely Moms Group** meets the first Thursday of each month from 9-11 a.m. at First Baptist Church (207 S. Sunset Ave.) to help connect moms in our community. Any moms who have

newborn through elementary aged children are welcome to join us for food, fellowship and fun. Childcare is provided. The first meeting is free. Subsequent meetings are \$5. Scholarships are available if needed.

■ **Childcare available at WRBM** Monday-Thursday from 8-10:30 a.m. \$3/hour/child without a pass. \$2.50/hour/child with purchase of a 20 punch pass for \$50. Call WRBM at 970-675-8211 for more information.

■ **Free WRBM open gym basketball** at Parkview Elementary. Adults on Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m., youth on Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. Clean shoes needed to participate. Call WRBM at 970-675-8211 for more information.

■ **Free Community Dinner** every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at St. James—Richards' Hall, Fourth and Park.

■ **Tiny Open Gym** Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. at the Admin Gym. Bring your one to four-year-olds to burn off some energy! Runs through Feb. 25. Maximum of three children per

parent/caregiver. ERBM Recreation and Park District 970-878-3403.

■ **"Geezer Gather"** every Thursday at 9 a.m. at the Meeker Veteran's Community Center. 290 4th Street. Adults 55+, stop by for refreshments and conversation. 970-878-3758.

■ **Friday Craft Class** for middle school through adults. Every Friday at 1 p.m. at the Meeker Public Library. January's craft will be macrame. Space is limited to 10 participants. Call 878-5911 or drop by to sign up.

■ **Quilting Group.** Tuesdays from 2-9 p.m. at WREA's Kilowatt Korner. All are welcome. Come during hours that fit your schedule. Bring your sewing machine and project. Making personal and comfort quilts for the Walbridge Wing and hospice care.

■ **Drop-in adult volleyball** Tuesdays 7:30 to 9 p.m., MES Gym. Adult (18+) drop-in volleyball will run through Feb. 25. A minimum of four participants must arrive by 7:45 p.m. or the program will be cancelled for the night. ERBM Recreation and

Park District 970-878-3403.

■ **Drop-in adult basketball** Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the MES Gym. Adult (18+) drop-in basketball will run through Feb. 26 (no session Jan 1.). A minimum of four participants must arrive by 7:45 p.m. or the program will be cancelled for the night. ERBM Recreation and Park District 970-878-3403.

■ **Youth Open Gym Basketball** Fridays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the MES Gym for K-8th grade boys and girls Jan. 17-Mar. 6. Youth under 8 must have a parent/caregiver 13 or older present. At least four participants need to arrive by 1:15pm or open gym will be cancelled for the day. ERBM Recreation and Park District 970-878-3403

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous** meetings held Tuesday and Thursday from 7-8 p.m. at New Creation Church, Rangely.

■ **Art On A Kart Master the Masters.** Mark your calendar for the third Thursday of each month for an evening of art and friendship. Canvas, paint, drawing and painting techniques are included. \$30 per person. Call or text Liz Waters

970-274-3794 to confirm or ask questions.

■ **Storytime** at the Rangely Regional Library Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

■ **Meeker Lions Club** meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at 290 Fourth St. New members are always welcome. It's a great way to give back to the community and spend time with a fun group of people.

■ **Rangely Community Resource Pantry Hours:** Mondays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first and third Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

■ **Gentleman's Group** meeting every Tuesday at 9 a.m. at the Meeker Recreation Center lounge. Adults 55+, stop by for refreshments and conversation. ERBM Recreation and Park District 970-878-3403.

■ **Children's Story Hour** Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Meeker Public Library.

■ **Foot Clinic.** Pioneers Hospital Home Health Foot Clinic will be at MVCC on the second Wednesday of each month, to trim toenails of anyone who has trouble with the

task. 290 4th St. Please call PMC Home Health 970-878-9265 to schedule an appointment. Thank you.

■ **Real-Tea Roundtable.** Join real estate expert Suzan Pelloni for helpful hints on buying and selling property. The first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at Wendl's.

■ **Quilting Group.** Tuesdays from 2-9 p.m. at WREA's Kilowatt Korner. All are welcome. Come during hours that fit your schedule. Bring your sewing machine and project. Making personal and comfort quilts for the Walbridge Wing and hospice care.

■ **Game Day** for adults 55+ on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. in the Meeker Recreation Center lounge. No game day Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Stop by for refreshment, conversation and a game of cards.

■ **The VFW, American Legion and their Auxiliaries** will meet the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 290 4th St. For further information call 970-878-5326.

Email calendar events by 5 p.m. Mondays. Listing dependent on available space.
calendar@ht1885.com

County roads and snow plowing awareness

Submitted by RBC Road & Bridge

RBC I It's that time of year again when the county plows come along and leave a ridge of snow across residents' driveways. Our crews do their very best to minimize the amount of snow left at driveways and intersections, but unfortunately there will always be a ridge. Citizens should be aware, when

plowing driveways, the snow must be pushed to a safe place and it needs to be done in a safe manner.

It's the responsibility of the homeowner, if they are clearing snow from their property, to be sure they aren't leaving ridges of snow in the public road. It's actually against the law to do this because it presents a traffic hazard. If you are pushing snow across the county road, it must be completely cleared. Also,

tracked vehicles such as dozers are not allowed on county roads due to the damage they cause.

It's a tough time of year and having patience and understanding goes a long way! If you need to report any concerns out there along winter-maintained county roads, please give us a call at 970-878-9590. We really appreciate everyone's input so we can make our roads as safe as possible.

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DERBY ...

ERBM Recreation and Park District hosted the annual Cardboard Derby on Saturday, Jan. 4 at Paintbrush Park (left). The hill was filled with cardboard creations as they slipped, crashed, and flew down the hill to the finish line. Results are as follows with age group first.
Most Creative: 2 and under Keeley Muxlow; 3-4 Cara and Blakely Ragsdale; 5-7 Melanie Hatcher
8-10 Auri Murray and Iris Holmes; **11-13** Liam Olson; **14-18** Nick Hatcher; **19+** Ann Franklin and Hallie Blunt.
Family/Group: Jameson Mlakar, Hudson and Sawyer Hummell
Race Champion: 2 and under Keeley Muxlow; 3-4 Cara Fross, 5-7 Rachel Petty; 8-10 Bryant Turner, 11-13 Vanessa Hatcher; 14-18 Nick Hatcher
Family/Group: Bryant and Tyrell Turner
Fastest to Fall Apart: Wesley and Riley Thompson
Biggest Wipeout: Mackenzie Denney
Golden Traveling Cup/Fastest Time: Bryant Turner (right)

ERBM STAFF PHOTOS

NEWS BRIEFS

Historical Society annual meeting

MEEKER | The Rio Blanco County Historical Society will hold its annual membership meeting Sunday, Jan. 19 at 2 p.m. at the Heritage Culture Center. Bring a taco topping for the taco bar or a dessert to share. Membership renewals and new members welcome.

Meeker Survey results workshop

MEEKER | There will be a Meeker Community Survey Workshop from 5:30-7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 23 at the Meeker Public Library to review the results of the Community Survey and learn about next steps in the process for planning for Meeker's future. On Wednesday, Jan. 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. there will be a Vision and Goal-setting Workshop at the Meeker Public Library to identify community values to develop a draft vision and goals for Meeker. Dinner will be provided. For questions, concerns, comments, etc. please contact Matt Farrar (matt@coloradoplanning.com) or call (970) 379-1669.

Community networking Jan. 27

RANGELY | The Community Networking meetings will resume on Monday, Jan. 27 at the Weiss Conference Room on the Rangely CNCC campus from 12-1:30 p.m. John Leary, a restoration coordinator with RiversEdge West, will be presenting on the increase of non-native tamarisk and Russian olive trees that "increase the risk of wildfire, reduce fish and wildlife habitat, and impede agricultural, recreational, and cultural uses of the river." If you plan to attend this meeting RSVP by Jan. 23 to Keely at (970) 675-3219 or Keely.Ellis@cnc.edu, as lunch will be provided.

CNCC machine quilting class

MEEKER | Finish projects while learning quilting techniques such as how to use a rotary cutter and ruler to measure and cut fabric accurately, improve your piecing, fabric and color selection, how to apply borders and bindings. Bring your own projects or ask the instructor for help to choose a pattern to make. 3-6p.m. Wednesdays Jan. 22 to Feb. 26 at Richards Hall, 368 Fourth St. in Meeker. Cost is \$90. Seniors may be eligible for 50% off due to the support of the Fairfield Foundation. Quilters must bring their own machine and quilting supplies. For further information and to register, call (970)675-3351 or register online at cnc.edu/communitied.

Would You Support A White River Water Management Plan?

Learn more and share your thoughts and ideas at public input sessions:

January 22nd

Piceance School House 2:00 p.m.

Meeker Library 6:00 p.m.

January 29th

Buford School House 1:00 p.m.

Rangely CNCC Weiss Conference Room 6:00 p.m.



For more information contact:
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or whiterivercd@gmail.com
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- 14.5 oz. Hunt's **TOMATOES** 99¢
- 15-16 oz. Hunt's **MANWICH SAUCE** 99¢
- 16-24 oz. American Beauty **PASTA** 88¢
- 24 oz. Hunt's **PASTA SAUCE** 99¢
- 10 pk. Perrier **SPARKLING WATER** 2 for \$7
- 6 pk. San Pelligrino **WATER** 2 for \$7
- 15 oz. Hormel **CHILI WITH BEANS** \$1.69
- 5-6 oz. Knorr **RICE SIDES** 4 for \$5
- 4-5 oz. Knorr **PASTA SIDES** 4 for \$5

FROZEN

- 13.4-15.5 oz. California Pizza Kitchen **PIZZA** \$5.99
- 9.5 oz. Healthy Choice **FROZEN MEALS** 2 for \$5
- 6 ct. Creamies Frozen Yogurt or **ICE CREAM BARS** 2 for \$5

PRODUCE

- 3 lbs. Mandarin **TANGERINES** \$3.49
- 16 oz. Baby Cut **CARROTS** 99¢
- Fresh **LIMES** 3 for \$1
- Jalapeno **PEPPERS** 99¢/lb.
- Red Tomato **TOMATOES** 2 for \$4
- Honeycrisp **APPLES** \$1.99/lb.
- Whole **CANTALOUPE** 79¢/lb.

MEAT

- Beef Eye of Round **ROAST** \$3.79/lb.
- 12 oz. Bar-S **BACON** 2 for \$5

DAIRY

- 52 oz. Simply **LIMEADE** \$2.29
- 52 oz. Simply **LEMONADE** \$2.29
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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Collective grief

By **NIKI TURNER**
niki@ht1885.com

Announcements that the wolves have indeed migrated into this part of the state and that the owners of the local coal mine plan to shut it down by 2030 cast a pall over our communities last week. By Saturday I found myself struggling with something familiar and uncomfortable: grief.



I recognize it better these days, now that I'm unwillingly but intimately acquainted with the process. As a kid growing up in Glenwood I remember the day an explosion at Mid-Continent's Dutch Creek No. 1 mine killed 15 local miners.

Teachers and students at school whispered and sobbed quietly together. A year later there was grief of another kind on "Black Sunday," when the burgeoning oil shale boom that had promised prosperity and abundance was suddenly abandoned, throwing western Colorado's economy into a dither. And I remember the day in 1985 when the natural gas facility in Glenwood exploded, rattling the windows at the high school and killing 12 residents. Again, the community mourned, and wondered what would become of its future.

Thankfully, we haven't had a disaster of such proportions, but there's a similar sense of grief and sorrow, complete with anger and denial and blame-casting and bargaining and all the other so-called "stages" of grief.

Change and grief go hand in hand. Even "good" changes — like my granddaughter notify-

ing me she lost a tooth this week — can trigger a grief response. Why? Because she's growing up, and that's a wonderful thing and a sad thing all at the same time. Nothing stays the same. Well, except death and taxes. And housework.

Big changes that affect entire communities can create palpable, collective grief. Remember the days and weeks after 9/11 when we grieved together as a nation? Even if you aren't personally affected, someone you know likely is, and that impacts you in some way.

If there's a bright spot to come out of the news that the mine's days are numbered (something I think we all knew was coming, eventually, just like we all knew the growing wolf population in Wyoming would cross the state line and move into Colorado), it's that we have some time to plan and prepare. We have a window of time to reinvent ourselves, and I believe we will. We will

find a way not just to survive, but to thrive. But before that comes, there has to be room to grieve.

Grief is messy and painful and unpleasant, and the grief over a loss of livelihood, loss of identity, or loss of security is just as tangible emotionally as the loss of a friend or loved one. Uncertainty and anxiety and anger and frustration may mark the days ahead for many of our friends and neighbors. Emotions may run high and reactions may be sharper than normal.

As many have told me in the last 16 months of my own personal grief journey, an essential component of the grieving process is to be gentle with yourself and with others. We need to be compassionate and empathetic with one another. That's a good rule to follow all the time, but especially in times of transition like these. So be kind to each other. Afford one another a little extra grace. That's something we can all use, all the time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protect our way of life: say 'no' to wolves

Dear Editor:

It was good to see letters to the editor from Mr. McKay and Gus Halandras about wolf introduction. I would like to add my own letter to the mix.

It bothers me that people talk about the "re-introduction" of the Canadian gray wolf to Colorado. The Canadian gray wolf was never in Colorado. A smaller sub-species of the gray wolf was in Colorado. The last wolf in Rio Blanco County was killed near Meeker in 1919. His hide is in the White River Museum. This sub-species of wolf is now extinct and was never the killing machine that the Canadian gray wolf is. He is an apex predator and answers to no one, except man. Colorado's moose, elk and deer herds will be decimated by this killing machine.

Canadian gray wolves were introduced into Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho in 1995. At that time the west Yellowstone elk herd was estimated at 19,000 elk. Now, as of January 2020, the herd is less than 1,000. I recently read a quote from a Yellowstone big game biologist that stated it is now hard to find a moose in Yellowstone because of wolves. An example of how deadly the wolf is was documented recently when 90 bachelor bull elk were all killed in 30 days by 11 wolves. The wolves not only kill for food, but for sport. Can you imagine what a pack of wolves will do to a band of sheep on the Flat Tops Wilderness Area. A guard dog will be no match to a pack of wolves. I have a handout from the Stop the Wolf Coalition that shows 176 head of sheep killed by wolves in one night and it doesn't look like any were eaten — it was done all for sport.

Colorado now has more elk than any other state or Canadian province. If wolves are introduced we can say goodbye to elk hunting enjoyed by so many in our state. Local economies all over the western slope will suffer. Deer and moose will be wiped out also.

The loss by livestock producers will be similar. Ranching families will be put out of business. If wolves are

introduced into our state the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife will be responsible for their management. The extra work involved in trying to manage an apex predator plus pay for all the wolf caused livestock damage claims will be in the millions. This money is sportsmen's dollars raised from the sale of hunting licenses. I don't think the average sportsman will support paying for managing the very animal that he likes to hunt — plus who will pay for wolf management when all the wildlife is gone and no hunting licenses will be sold?

Then there is the issue of wolves and people's beloved pets. Wolves kill all dogs because they view them as competitors for territory and food. Wolf attacks on pets in residential areas are rare but it has happened. What about when you and your family are out hiking with your dog and some wolves find your dog? There have been instances of wolves attacking people — see stopthewolfcoalition.org. Mr. McKay in his letter addressed the hydatid cyst disease that wolves carry and can be transmitted to humans.

The proponents of wolf introduction are so misinformed. They say the wolf will "restore natural balance" to the ecosystem by only killing the weak, sick and old prey animals. I'm sure those thousands of elk in Yellowstone were not all weak, sick or old. The proponents seem to think if we introduce wolves to designated lands and state wildlife areas that they will stay there. It is not uncommon for wolf territories to be as large as 50 square miles but it can expand up to 1,000 square miles after all the prey animals have been killed and they need to hunt elsewhere. The proponents of the wolf introduction want to only put them on the western slope of Colorado. Most wolves leave the pack at age 3. Some wolves have been known to travel up to 600 miles upon leaving the pack. Do you think the wolves are going to stay on the western slope?

Colorado, unfortunately, has a ballot initiative available that says if a group can get a required number of signatures then whatever issue they are supporting will go to the ballot and people will vote on the

issue. In the early 1990s, the ballot initiative and subsequent vote did away with leg-hold trapping and the spring bear hunt. Now some environmental extremists have gathered enough signatures for the issue of introduction of wolves into Colorado to go to the ballot in November. Mr. Halandras mentioned the fact that the pro-wolf people hired an out-of-state firm to gather the required number of signatures — using trick questions — and I have even heard that some people were being paid for their signature. Managing wildlife by the vote of the people never works. Wildlife management should be left to the wildlife experts.

Our way of life in Meeker will never be the same if wolves are introduced. There are presently several counties on board saying "NO" to the introduction of wolves. Maybe our county commissioners will work with all Colorado counties to get them on board to say no to the introduction — especially the counties on the front range. The liberal people on the front range are the ones that carried the vote against trapping and spring bear hunting — hopefully they won't do it again.

So you say "what can I do if I am against wolf introduction to Colorado?" Go to the website www.stopthewolf.org and see all the information available. On that site, you can submit your vote of support against the wolf introduction and if so led you can donate money to help fight the introduction. So, this November, I urge you to vote "no" on wolf introduction to Colorado. I also urge you to contact all your friends and family to do the same.

Let's protect our way of life that we now enjoy here in Meeker!

Claude Wood
Meeker

WREA on Colowyo closure

Dear Editor:

Last week Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State) made the difficult announcement that it will close the Colowyo Mine and the Craig Station Units by 2030. White River

Electric Association (WREA) learned about these closures last Thursday morning and our thoughts immediately went to the employees and our communities. Colowyo Mine has been a valued member-consumer for decades and the Craig Units have provided our region with safe and reliable power since the 1970s.

White River Electric would prefer to see Colowyo produce coal for the Craig Units for generations to come but those decisions are not within our control. White River Electric was active in the campaign to educate the public on Colowyo's environmentally sound operations which even featured local stories and member faces. White River Electric was also a vocal advocate for Colowyo during the Collom expansion permitting process. Unfortunately, these efforts were no match for the legislative and regulatory pressures that drove these closures. Tri-State serves 43 diverse members and many of these members have long pushed for an increase in renewable energy and a departure from coal generation. Tri-State member and regulatory pressures led Tri-State to develop a Responsible Energy Plan that increased the use of cost competitive renewables and addressed coal production and generation in Colorado and New Mexico. Tri-State considered a full array of options, including converting the coal plants to natural gas, selling them to other buyers, performing upgrades or other efficiency improvements, and whether technological improvements like carbon capture could postpone retirement, but these options were either not cost effective or not technologically viable or both.

Meeker stands together in challenging times and we are pleased to see that so many of our members have been vocal in their support for the affected employees, families and businesses. We are also pleased that local and statewide political leaders have recognized the impact these closures will have on our region. These decisions were not made lightly by Tri-State and the phased plan will allow Tri-State time to work

with their employees and our communities to address the impacts of the closures. White River Electric looks forward to working with community and business leaders on economic development efforts over the next several years.

White River's initial posting regarding these closures led with support for Tri-State as they move forward with their Responsible Energy Plan, and we regret that this has offended many of our members. While the entire posting shared genuine concern about the employees and our communities, it was quickly lost in the emotions surrounding our commitment to Tri-State and we sincerely apologize.

White River Electric is a member of Tri-State, but more importantly, we are a cooperative that is made up of our member-owners who are our friends and family. We appreciate your comments, your passion for our community and your patience as we work through the challenges that face our industry and the closures.

Sincerely,
White River Electric
Association

A word from Tri-State

Dear Editor:

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association announced Jan. 9 that Colowyo Mine and Craig Station will be retiring by 2030. In addition, we will be retiring Escalante Station in New Mexico by the end of 2020. Over the next decade, we will work with our employees and northwest Colorado communities, and enlist the support of others, to reduce the impacts of the plant and mine closure as best we can.

This is not a decision that we've come to lightly, but one made after years of working hard to protect our employees and the communities we serve. It has now become one without an alternative.

Tri-State and all power providers face significant change: Our members desire a lower emission power supply and greater flexibility in where power comes from; new laws affecting emissions and resources have been passed

recently by state legislatures in Colorado and New Mexico; and the broader energy markets continue to change. Given all of these factors, our board of directors — which represents our membership in all four states — needed to make difficult decisions.

As a not-for-profit wholesale power cooperative, we are responsible to the members we provide energy to. We have an obligation to all of our members to develop a path forward that ensures we can continue to operate today, and that we can keep providing reliable, affordable power for years to come. With our board of directors representing our members, we have developed a Responsible Energy Plan that addresses the changes in our industry.

We recognize the impacts the eventual closings of Colowyo Mine and Craig Station has on our employees, their families and their communities. The decision weighs heavily on us and is in no way a reflection of our talented and dedicated employees or the high-quality, safe work that we have accomplished over the years. Throughout this transition, our employees are and will remain our focus and we will work closely with state and local officials to minimize negative impacts and to identify opportunities for reinvestment and retraining.

When we met with our employees and community leaders following the announcement, we were, as always, inspired by the professionalism and integrity of our employees and the strength and tenacity of the community.

Colowyo Mine and Craig Station have played a critical role in helping us power communities across the West, and will continue to do so in the coming years. We thank you for your resiliency through the ups and downs we've walked through together, and we thank you for welcoming us into your communities and being our ally through the years. We recognize the effects these retirements will have, and we will work together with you to best ease the impacts.

Rick Gordon, Chairman
Duane Highley, CEO
Tri-State Generation and
Transmission Association

Have something to say?

We welcome letters to the editor on matters of local interest. All letters **must** include the author's name and phone number and may be hand-delivered to our office at 304 4th Street, Meeker, emailed to editor@ht1885.com or mailed to PO Box 720, Meeker, CO 81641.



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U.S. Postal Service #338-020.
Periodicals class postage
is paid at Meeker, Colorado
81641. Postmaster: send
change of addresses to P.O.
Box 720, Meeker, CO
81641-0720



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GUEST COLUMN

Loose Ends: Goal setting

By **DOLLY VISCARDI**
Special to the Herald Times

RBC I am getting messages from my phone about my failure to meet goals. It first started doing this shortly before the end of the year when it let me know that I had not reached my exercise goal of the week. Apparently I was not only doing less exercise than the week before but reading more. It informed me I must remedy that situation immediately by adding more time and effort to my daily efforts. My smart phone claimed I had set these goals myself when I signed on to their health app including a daily step counter. It must have been in the fine print that I didn't read closely enough.

The goals on which I am supposed to be working are exercise and reading. The fact that I am a voracious reader, sometimes reading three or four books in a week, isn't one that I specifically think about. I read when I am interested and when I have the time. So it seems that

the reading goal that has been set for me mysteriously, and is tied into the amount of time my computer catches me reading. It only counts my digital reading however, which I only do when I am riding in a car.

My former teachers' voices are the ones I am reminded of when I read the message. They were the ones that tried to set goals for me. If I turned on my audio computer app. I wouldn't be surprised to hear all of them speak to me instead of the weird robot voice. The message about reading would have to be that of Mrs. Owens, my childhood librarian. It would be Mrs. Brady, my coach, as well as my P.E. teacher. After all these years, their distinctive voices come back to me loud and clear.

While I am fairly successful with goal setting on my own, I found over the years I rebel against the advice of others. This computer reminder only triggers one thought that must be carried over from all those years of being the youngest in a family of five siblings. "You are not the boss of

me."

I thought I had an important text message the other day, only to read the following message: You took more steps last week on that day than you did this week. What it implied was that I was lazier this week than last. My reaction was to leave my phone behind when I walked later that day.

I remember that old saying, "You get what you pay for." Everyone used it in a negative way and in the world of modern technology, you have to realize that this often holds true. We might want the convenience that all of the newest gadgets, but when they seem to intrude just a little too far into our personal life, you not only get what you pay for, you get more!



Dolly Viscardi

OBITUARIES

David Lee Kuhn

June 22, 1937 ~ Jan. 7, 2020

David Lee Kuhn, 82, passed away Jan. 7, 2020, in Meeker, Colorado. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Tanna; sons Shawn Kuhn and Kevin Kuhn; brother Harold Kuhn; sister Susie Anderson; brother Steven Kuhn; sister Patricia McFadden, and 12 nieces and nephews.

David was born in Lafayette, Indiana, but spent most of his life in Colorado. He was an ambulance driver, Army clerk, practical nurse and accountant, but he will

be remembered for being a gentleman. His kindness and compassion for family, friends, neighbors and animals had no limit. He will also be remembered for his patience and sense of humor.

David enjoyed science fiction and mystery novels. He loved baseball. He loved his pets. Most of all he loved his wife and children.

In lieu of flowers, a contribution to the American Lung Association is greatly appreciated.



David Kuhn

Doyle Cornelius Olree

March 12, 1926 ~ Jan. 9, 2020

Doyle Cornelius was born to Cornelius and Nellie Olree on March 12, 1926. He grew up with his eight brothers and sisters: Jake, Pauline, Thelma, Lois, Bernice, Sarah, Sue and Kenneth in the small town of Grafrod, Texas.

Doyle met the love of his life, Mary Louise Montgomery, at a basketball game between their two small-town teams. Lou used to tell the story that she spotted Doyle sitting with another girl and began shooting spit wads in his direction. She told her friend that the next time Doyle came to town, he would be coming to see her. Doyle and Lou were married on July 1, 1944, when he was 18 and she was 16. They celebrated more than 74 years of marriage before Lou's passing on Sept. 14, 2018. Doyle's heart was broken and he longed to be reunited with his beautiful bride in their heavenly home.

Doyle was sworn into the U.S. Navy on June 30, 1944, in Dallas, Texas. He served from 1944-1946 as a Seaman 1st Class aboard the USS LST 866 Landing Ship Tank. He was part of the fleet that invaded Okinawa, and his ship crew was awarded a Combat Star for their actions in World War II.

Doyle and Lou left Texas in 1946 after his return from the war, living in northwestern Colorado and raising their family in Rangely. They were blessed with four children: Doyle Jr. (Sherry) of Montrose; Donna (Barry) of Wright, Wyoming; David (Sue) of Grand Junction; and Paula of Jenks, Oklahoma; eight grandchildren: Jennifer, Jolene, Kyle, Rebecca, Jeff, Amanda, Sara and Daniel; 13 great-grandchildren



Doyle Olree



and one great-great-grandson.

Doyle spent 30 years working for Chevron USA in the oil fields of Rangely, Colorado; Flat Lake, Montana and Windsor, Colorado, retiring in 1985. Doyle and Lou moved to Palisade after retiring and spent many wonderful years traveling in their motorhome, going fishing and taking a trip to Hawaii (the honeymoon they never had) and enjoying their family.

Doyle enjoyed fishing, golfing and watching the Denver Broncos. Doyle was a faithful member of the Church of Christ, attending services regularly throughout his lifetime.

On Jan. 9, 2020, Doyle Cornelius Olree peacefully left this world behind, entering the Kingdom of his Lord and Savior and reuniting with the love of his life.

Our family would like to offer a special thanks to Doyle's sister, Sarah Gabriel, and niece, Pam Oldham, for their never-ending love and care for him, especially over the past 16 months.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Mountain States Children's Home, 14780 N. 107th St, Longmont, Colorado 80504, or HopeWest Hospice in Grand Junction.

Visitation was held at the Palisade Funeral Home on Tuesday, Jan. 14 from 5-7 p.m. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 1 p.m. at the Grand Junction Church of Christ, 2893 Patterson Rd., Grand Junction, Colorado. Burial services were conducted at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 10 a.m.

GUEST COLUMN: MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT

MSD's Emergency Operations Plan

By **CHRIS SELLE**
MSD Superintendent

MEEKER While we are fortunate to live in the extremely safe community of Meeker, Colorado, it is still a necessity to prepare for a variety of emergencies in our school system. Meeker School District's Emergency Operations Plan is intended to address these emergencies, and it is important for the school district to annually share the basics of the plan with parents and community members. The plan and supporting documents can be found at www.meeker.k12.co.us under the "Our District" tab. Annual review of the plan occurs by the district's safety team and employees are continually updated and trained on the plan's specifics. Additionally, cooperative efforts to strengthen the plan occur with Meeker Police Department, the Rio Blanco County Office of Emergency Management, and other applicable county agencies.

Each school regularly practices the four common responses which occur in schools and are outlined in the emergency operations plan. The four common responses below. Please note the difference between lockout and lockdown.

Lockout—A lockout occurs when a potential threat exists outside the school building. The perimeter of the building is secured, but operations continue as normal inside the building.

Lockdown—A lockdown

occurs when a threat is identified inside the building. Classroom doors are locked, lights are turned off, and teachers move students away from any line of sight into the classroom.

Evacuation—An evacuation occurs when students need to be removed from the building. A fire inside the building is a typical example of this response.

Shelter—Shelter is the least likely response to occur in our schools. This occurs when there is a need for students to take shelter, for example, due to a tornado.

More important than knowing how to respond in a school crisis event are efforts to prevent such events. In order to protect our students, each administrator and counselor in the school district has received threat assessment training. The processes and documents utilized in the Meeker School District's threat assessments are based on research completed by the United States Secret Service.

If the school district receives a report that a student has made a threat of school violence, a threat assessment is conducted for that student. The threat assessment is

conducted by at least two school district staff trained in threat assessment. Parents, law enforcement and other Rio Blanco County support agencies are involved as necessary. The purpose of the threat assessment is to determine if the individual who made the threat truly poses a threat to the safety and welfare of students and staff versus simply making a threat. Once this determination has been made, appropriate steps are taken by the school administration, and law enforcement when necessary, to guarantee the safety and welfare of all students and staff.

The Meeker School District is fortunate to have strong relationships with law enforcement agencies in our community. This relationship is essential in providing a safe learning environment for all students. We are also fortunate to have strong relationships with our students and their families. Acts of school violence are rarely carried out absent of warning signs. Our students and families have been wonderful partners in providing information to the school which helps ensure a safe school environment and we encourage them to maintain these open lines of communication regarding school safety.



Chris Selle

DISCLAIMER:

Thoughts expressed on opinion pages are exclusively those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the *Herald Times* staff. Submit signed letters or editorial piece to editor@ht1885.com or mail to PO Box 720, Meeker, CO 81641.



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The Paradox of Parables

By **Dr. J. D. Watson**
Pastor-Teacher, Grace Bible Church

Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. (Matt. 13:13)



Dr. J.D. Watson

WHO doesn't like a good story? From the characters, to the setting, to the plot, to the conflict, and finally to the resolution, we all are captivated by the unfolding of a good yarn. A very special kind of story, however, is the parable. While parables appear in the OT (e.g., 2 Sam. 12:1-4), our Lord was certainly the Master of it. As has been observed, in fact, about one-third of Jesus' teaching was couched in parables.

Parables transliterates the Greek word *parabolē*, which literally means a placing side by side and, therefore, a comparison or similarity, an analogy. In other words, it is "a short story under which something else is figured or in which the fictitious is used to represent and illustrate the real." But, as the disciples asked, why use parables (Matt. 13:10)? Why not just be literal and clear? Why be abstract? Why not just say what you mean? The answer is that parables are designed to make the hearer think, but herein lies a paradox, a seemingly contradictory two-fold purpose.

First, they were meant to reveal truth to those who desired it. As Jesus said in verse 11, "It is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven." Parables actually illustrate great truths about salvation, obedience, service, the Church, prayer, evangelism, and more. As we will note next time, the specific truth mentioned in Matthew 13 is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Second, however, parables were meant to conceal truth from those who defied it. Our Lord said that those who are not

spiritually inclined would not understand His parables. The Greek (*sunēmi*) refers to "the assembling of individual facts into an organized whole, as collecting the pieces of a puzzle and putting them together." In other words, then, those who did not want the truth would be unable to "put the pieces together" from the stories Jesus told, unable to comprehend the fuller meaning He was conveying. He was actually presenting deep truths that demanded deep thinking, but the majority just couldn't get it.

Ponder this: Is it not probable that if our Lord were here today He would speak in parables? Are not most people totally disinterested in knowing absolute Truth? Are there not even many professing Christians who actually abhor doctrine and deep Bible preaching and teaching? Are there not many books written about "loving God" and having a "relationship with Jesus" but never exposit Scripture? Are not mysticism, feelings, and "impressions" elevated above God's Word?

The parables are both mirrors and windows: as mirrors, they reflect what we are; as windows, they enable us to see what we should be. So, let us desire the deeper things of God's Word by meditating on several of our Lord's parables.

Scriptures for Study: Read the parable in 2 Samuel 12:1-4. Who is telling it, to whom is it being told, and what is its point?

We hope you will visit our website (www.TheScriptureAlone.com), where you will find not only our podcast of these devotional studies but also other resources for Christian growth, including messages in MP3 media files. You are also invited to worship with us at Grace Bible Church (on the corner of 3rd and Garfield) at 10:30 A.M. each Lord's Day, where the ministry is: "continu[ing] stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42).



COURTESY PHOTO

(Above) A skijoring event in Pinedale, Wyoming. Meeker hosted a skijoring event about 25 years ago, and the sport will return Feb. 22-23 at the RBC Fairgrounds.

Meeker rides again!

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I What do Saint Moritz, Switzerland, Saratoga, Wyoming and Nadym, Russia have in common with Meeker, Colorado? A love of horses, lots of snow and on Feb. 22 of this year skijoring!

The name skijoring is derived from a Norwegian word which means ski driving. The sport has a storied history in North America. It is speculated that when World War II ended, men from the 10th Mountain Division returned home to the American west after seeing skijoring in countries such as France and Switzerland. To simplify the equipment cowboys simply attached a long rope to the saddle horn of a western saddle, added a water skiing tow handle, and the skier held on as the horse was ridden at a gallop down a long straightaway—usually an open field or

a snow-covered roadway. Bobby Gutierrez, co-owner of Wendll's, organized one such event for Meeker on Main Street in 1996.

This year Meeker joins numerous mountain towns in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana to produce races that put safety, fairness and integrity first in support of a common interest: celebrating skijoring's responsible growth as a winter sport. The race will be held Feb. 22-23 at the Rio Blanco County Fairgrounds.

Seasoned skijor racehorses can reach speeds of up to 40

miles per hour, slightly slower than a typical downhill ski racer at 60 miles per hour. As the horse gallops on a straight course, the skier flies over jumps and spears rings set up along certain parts of the course. The race team is considered a team of three: horse, rider and skier. Teams can be a mix of ages and beginners are encouraged to come out and give skijoring a try. It's mandatory that all participants bring their own horses and train them to pull objects before attempting to race.



(Left) From the Meeker Herald, 1996: Kevin Nye gets a wild ride on his knee board at the first annual Meeker Winter Games ...

HT FILE PHOTO

Community survey results workshop/discussion Jan. 23

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I On Jan. 23, 2020, the Town of Meeker and its consultant team will be hosting the Meeker Community Survey Workshop at the Meeker Public Library (490 Main St.) from 5:30-7 p.m. This workshop will serve as an opportunity for the community to come together to review and discuss the full results of the Meeker Community Survey and learn about next steps for Meeker Moving Forward. The five winners of the survey prize drawing will also be announced during the workshop. The "Meeker Community Survey Workshop" is open to all who are interested and light refreshments will be provided.

The Meeker Community Survey was made available over the past few months as part of the Meeker Moving Forward (www.meekermovingforward.com) effort. The survey offered residents the opportunity to chime in on topics such as: What do you love about living in Meeker? What ideas do you have for strengthening Meeker's economy? What types of housing are needed in Meeker now and in the future? What recreational opportunities do you think should be pursued over the coming years? The goal of the survey was to collect responses from as many people as possible in hopes of having all voices and perspectives represented in planning for the town's future.

Work on the Meeker Community Survey began in November 2019 and concluded on Jan. 6, 2020. The survey was fielded through mailed surveys to households in Meeker, as well as online. When surveying closed on Jan. 6, a total of 416 responses had been received.

"ERBM would like to thank all community members who took the time to complete the recent Meeker Moving Forward Community Survey, as well as the Town of Meeker for initiating this valuable feedback and planning process. This input will greatly assist in guiding decisions amongst a host of local partners as we work together to shape our collective future in a responsive and responsible manner," said Sean VonRoenn, director of the Eastern

Rio Blanco Metropolitan (ERBM) Recreation and Park District.

Initial findings from the survey include: About 70% of respondents report that they do less than half of their shopping in Meeker. The top reasons identified for shopping outside of Meeker include: not being able to find desired products/services; and, lower prices for products/services.

Most residents favor "moderate growth" (20-25 new people per year), followed by "slow growth" (10-15 people per year).

Survey respondents had the opportunity to weigh in on different types of tourism to focus local efforts on over the coming years. The top three options identified were: outdoor activities such as hunting and fishing; major events with a regional draw (eg. sheepdog trials); and outdoor activities such as biking, hiking and backpacking.

From a list of 15 potential recreation amenities in Meeker, enhancements to the river corridor emerged as the top priority. Winter-time outdoor activities and Ute Park enhancements also received relatively strong support.

Following a review of the initial survey results, Chris Lockwood, a local business owner and member of the Meeker Moving Forward Committee, noted "I am so happy to see the idea that the river is an 'underutilized asset' is shared by other Meeker citizens! Can't wait to see where these ideas go!"

In addition to the community-wide survey, a secondary survey effort is currently underway. This surveying is focused on gathering input from local students. The results of this survey will be analyzed in conjunction with those collected via the Meeker Community Survey.

To learn more about Meeker Moving Forward please visit www.meekermovingforward.com; look for Meeker Moving Forward handouts, posters and signs around town; follow the Town of Meeker on Instagram and Facebook (@townofmeekercolorado and #meekertime); or, contact Lisa Cook (Meeker Town Administrator) at 970-878-4962 or lisa@town.meeker.co.us.

FAST FACTS

WHO: Meeker Moving Forward

WHAT: Community Survey Results Workshop

WHEN: Jan. 23, 5:30-7 p.m.

WHERE: Meeker Public Library, 490 Main St.



Meeker Moving Forward's community survey results will be discussed Jan. 23 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Meeker Public Library. A total of 416 responses were received.

MEEKER NUGGETS ...



LAWSON ANDERSON



DEXTER CHINN



GRAYSON CORYELL



SYDNIE ROSS

2019 RESULTS

- BOYS**
Name (Age Group)
■ Lawson Anderson (8/9)
■ Dexter Chinn (10/11)

- GIRLS**
Name (Age Group)
■ Grayson Coryell (8/9)
■ Sydnie Ross (12/13)

ERBM Recreation and Park District hosted the local round of the Denver Nuggets Skills Challenge on Friday, Jan. 10. The following youth won their division locally and will advance to the sectionals. The Denver Nuggets Basketball Skills Challenge is a basketball competition that allows youngsters to showcase their talents in dribbling, passing and shooting. It is a youth program of the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association and the Denver Nuggets.

COURTESY PHOTOS

RANGELY NUGGETS ...



The Rangely Rec Center had the pleasure of hosting the local competition of the Denver Nuggets Skills Challenge. We had one of the largest turnouts this year, with 20 kids ages 6 to 13. The Challenge tests kids on their passing, dribbling and shooting abilities. Winners in each age division will have the opportunity to advance to the sectional competition. First place winners this year were: Eli Schwartz, Kaila Hill, Gentry Plummer, Reid Zadra, Marilyn Ryder, Drew Zadra, Alyssa Coker and Colin Zadra. Thank you to everyone that participated this year.

FIRST PLACE WINNERS:

- Eli Schwartz
- Kaila Hill
- Gentry Plummer
- Reid Zadra
- Marilyn Ryder
- Drew Zadra
- Alyssa Coker
- Colin Zadra

COURTESY PHOTO

MARKETING THAT WORKS.

An effective marketing plan is like a good diet. If you balance your options correctly, pay attention to portions, and target your specific needs, results are guaranteed. Eat only cookies, or sticking to our metaphor here—use only one kind of marketing—and your plan is doomed to fail. Here are a few characteristics of a healthy business marketing “diet”:

1. Effective marketing is **CONSISTENT**.

Did you know the average person is exposed to 5,000 ads per day!? Don't let your message get lost in this shuffle. How? Build brand awareness with consistent, regular campaigns and make sure customers know what you have to offer. And keep it fresh! Running the same advertisement two or three times to cement your message is great, any longer and your message loses its power.

2. Effective marketing is **COHESIVE**.

Marketing works best when it's recognizable! Think of big brands like McDonalds or Coca-Cola. You know their products, ads and signage instantly thanks to cohesive branding. Be sure to use logos, colors and fonts consistently in your marketing for the best effect.

Is your business branding nonexistent? We'd love to help you!

Email ads@ht1885.com or call 970-878-4017 for a free brand health analysis and quote.

3. Effective marketing is **CUSTOMER-ORIENTED**.

Your recurring customers are most often your friends, neighbors and community members! Make sure you're reaching them at home with a medium they trust, which just happens to be print. More than 80% of people trusted print ads when making a purchasing decision, double the 39% rate of social media ads.

4. Effective marketing is **COMPREHENSIVE**.

A good marketing plan hits all mediums! The more channels you use for your advertising, the more potential customers you can reach. So hit them all, just like food groups, for maximum effectiveness.

5. **BONUS!** Don't forget **DESIGN**.

Good design will ultimately make or break your marketing plan. That's why we include free professional graphic design with every Herald Times advertisement. Quotes are available by email or phone, ads@ht1885.com or 970-878-4017. We also offer a variety of other design and print products including flyers, postcards, business cards and more, as well as branding and logos.

To better serve our communities, the *Herald Times* has expanded services to include a variety of graphic design and multi-platform marketing options!

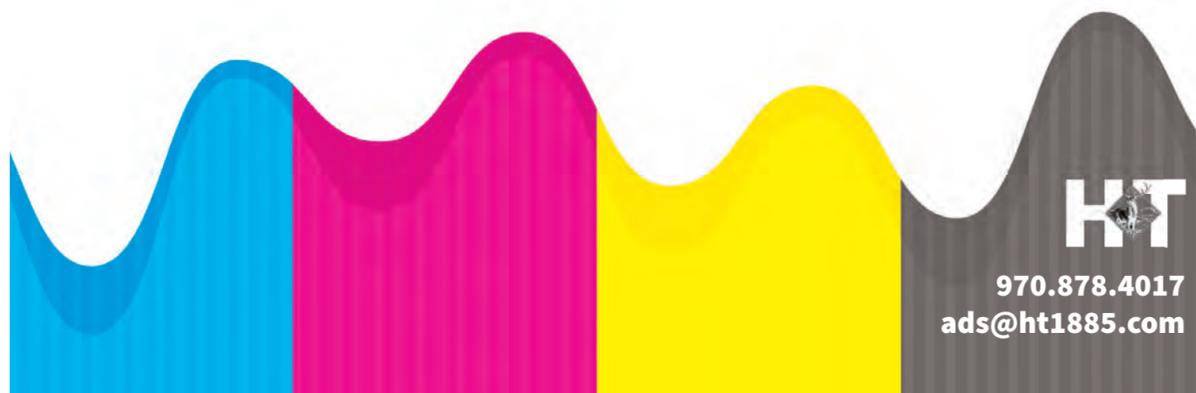
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“In a digital world, print stands out.”

Why should you include print advertising in your marketing plan? Take a look at these survey results from a white paper published by HubCast:

1. Print is easier to read and navigate.

81% of people prefer reading print on paper over a digital screen.

2. Print leads to better information retention.

88% of people say they retain and use information more effectively when it's printed.

3. Digital reading fosters skimming.

90% of people multitask when using a digital screen, decreasing comprehension and message impact.

4. Print is tactile.

67% of people like the feel of print media over other mediums.

5. Print is more credible.

80% of people say they trust a print ad, compared to 39% for a digital ad or social media post.

6. Digital reading can be harmful.

Eye strain, back issues and having a hard time sleeping have all been linked to excessive screen use.

7. Millennials prefer print.

U.S. citizens born between 1982 and 2004 have some of the highest print readership rates across the board.

8. Print is sustainable.

Newspaper comes from managed forests or farms, who replant four trees for every tree they use.

9. Print stands out in a digital world.

Your print advertisement can live longer than you!

10. Print can be taken anywhere, cord and hassle-free.

Put some weight behind your marketing campaign. Contact us at 970-878-4017 or ads@ht1885.com

Source: HubCast White Paper, <http://www.hubcast.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/HubCast-White-Paper-10-Reasons-Print-is-NOT-Dead.pdf>

Trooper Tips: Older drivers

By **MASTER TROOPER GARY CUTLER**
Colorado State Patrol

RBC I Driving is a feeling of freedom you get when you're able to just travel wherever you wish. But, there may come a point in time when either you or someone close to you must make the decision to put the keys away and find another way to commute.

Talking to an older person about their driving can be difficult and is often delayed until their driving is to a point of being dangerous. But if delayed too long, it can be a hesitation that can turn fatal.

I speak from personal experience when I lost my grandmother in a crash. The signs were there prior to the fatal crash, but we failed to see them as a serious enough problem and hesitated in having her stop driving. It started with a few scratches here and there on the car, and pulling into the garage a little too far. Perhaps, if we had acted upon those signs we may have had her around longer.

Years later when another driving situation approached my family, we didn't hesitate to take action. My father began to show signs of having trouble driving due to early onset dementia and we took steps to keep him from driving and possibly hurt-

ing himself or someone else. A problem you may face is the older driver believing they are driving fine, when in fact you are seeing dangerous problems. I won't tell you it was easy to have the conversation. My father was upset with us for a while, but I would do it again to make sure it keeps everyone safe.



The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows that in 2018, 19% of all fatal crashes were caused by drivers 65 years and older. Now this doesn't mean just because you turn 65 you should have your driver's license taken from you. Far from it, it just means it's time to start being aware of any changes. For a start, keep track of eyesight, physical fitness, and reflexes.

If you are an older person, try

to avoid driving in bad weather, driving at dusk or night, where it may be harder to see things, or if bright lights have started to bother your eyes. Other ways to make sure you are being safe is to give yourself more distance between cars, and to constantly scan the road ahead. Look to ways you can extend your driving by being aware of any changes that could be dangerous on the roadways for you and others by adjusting those problems as they arise.

For family members with aging relatives, plan ahead so when the time comes everyone involved knows what needs to be done. Have a discussion with family members about what should be done, and how everyone should respond when and if the time comes.

Be sensitive to ways you can preserve the older driver's self-respect. Present concerns in non-threatening terms. Use "I" messages rather than "You" messages. Focus on a plan that maximizes community safety and try to look for ways that can put into place that allow the older person to continue to drive if possible by changing habits.

Don't wait to take steps that could save lives. For more information on driving for the elderly visit www.nhtsa.gov.

As always, safe travels!

NEW BIZ ...



The Meeker Chamber of Commerce hosted a "leash cutting" party last week at the Meeker Coworking space for new chamber member Yvette Waller and Pet Wants Western Slope. Pet Wants sells various pet food products, treats and homemade pet products. Visit <https://www.petwants.com/WesternSlope/home> or call (970) 987-6069 for more information.

COURTESY PHOTO

RBC WEEKLY CALL REVIEW

WEEKLY CALL REVIEW AT THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DISPATCH CENTER

Jan. 6-12, 2020

Meeker Dispatch Center administered 363 phone calls last week including seven 911 calls, 55 calls for Meeker Police Department and placed 103 outgoing calls. A total of 149 calls for service were created, 94 for the Sheriff's Office, 75 for MPD.

Note the department breakdown of calls may differ from the total number reported due to individual incidents with multiple agencies responding.

- Law enforcement conducted 35 traffic stops
- Sheriff's Deputies issued three citations on 19 stops
- MPD issued 0 citations on 16 stops
- There was one traffic arrest and no DUIs
- Three traffic crashes occurred in RBC, one involving wildlife and vehicle, one injury accident and one slide off. RBSO and MPD assisted Colorado State Patrol on four calls.

Sheriff's Deputies responded to 57 requests for service

- 8 agency assists,
- 5 animal calls
- 13 security checks
- 8 civil papers served
- 5 motorist assists
- 2 suspicious incidents
- 2 warrant arrests
- One each: civil, fraud, K-9 deployment, M-1

transport, narcotics, property, protection order violation, theft, traffic complaint.

MPD responded to 39 requests for service

- 2 agency assists
- 2 animal calls
- 15 business checks
- 6 code enforcement
- 2 thefts
- 3 VIN inspections
- One each: abandoned vehicle, attended death, harassment, juvenile problem, M-1 transport, motorist assist, narcotics, protection order violation, suspicious incident

Meeker Fire and Rescue responded to three calls

- One traffic crash and two medical transports
- Rio Blanco Detention
- 17 current inmates, 15 males and 2 females
- Two warrant arrests
- Booked in four, three from RBCSO and one from MPD

- Four inmates released
- Four transports to or from other facilities.

This information is a weekly review of the calls for service that were requested at the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Communications Office. If you have any questions or would like an explanation of the call types listed please call 878-9600. We will not regularly post any information as to the names or addresses on any incident.

THEME: SUPER BOWL

- ACROSS**
1. Wheel stopper
 6. "Stinging" Muhammad
 9. Greek portico
 13. She turned to stone, mythology

14. Loud noise
15. *Like many football fans
16. At full speed
17. VHS successor
18. Omit
19. *Miami ____

21. *They won their first two Super Bowl appearances
23. Time division
24. Do like phoenix
25. "Swan Lake" steps
28. It often follows tooth or back
30. What oars do
35. Part of a jousting outfit
37. Dickens!
39. Donkey in Mexico
40. Glazier's unit
41. *Like Bud at a party
43. Farm structure
44. Fraternal letter
46. Miso bean
47. Make wet
48. Unmoved
50. Agitate
52. Tasseled hat
53. Colloquial approval
55. Opposite of paleo
57. *Tonowanda ____, shortest-lived team in NFL history
60. *Hard Rock ____
64. In the buff
65. Rapsallion
67. It's common?
68. What time does
69. Lawyers' league
70. Load carrier
71. Extend credit
72. Nonclerical
73. Roommate annoyance

DOWN

1. Angler's enemy
2. Type of cotton fiber
3. Sound of pride
4. Do like a good citizen
5. Family subdivisions
6. Contributes
7. *54
8. Lemur from Madagascar
9. The only one
10. *Ronde to Tiki or Maurice to Mike
11. *Gambling ____
12. Pirate's "yes"
15. Echo
20. *Popular stadium snack
22. Nile reptile
24. Clergy house
25. *Halftime show sponsor
26. "Encore!"
27. *What halftime performer does
29. 43 Across residents
31. "That hurts!"
32. Measure of alcohol
33. Jagged, as a leaf's edge
34. *Halftime performer
36. Highway hauler
38. Boxer's last blow
42. House coat
45. Not seeing eye to eye
49. Tiny Tim's guitar
51. To the lowest degree, pl.
54. Relating to axis
56. Theater to Socrates
57. Leafy green
58. Similar
59. *Hall of Famers Ed or Andre
60. Neuter
61. Division word
62. ____ agreement
63. BÉBÉ's mother
64. *Super Bowl owner
66. Wharton degree

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14				15			
16					17				18			
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48				49		50			51		52	
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	57	58	59					60		61	62	63
64					65	66			67			
68					69				70			
71					72				73			

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	2	5				9	3	
9	8	4	7				1	
6	9	3	2					7
	7							3
4					7	6	5	2
		7			3	4	1	6
		9	6			5	8	
3		1			8	2		

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Cutest Couple Contest!

Winner announced in the Feb. 13 edition of the Rio Blanco Herald Times!

Voting will take place on Instagram. Follow @herald_times_faces_of and @heraldtimes1885 to participate!

How To Enter:

1. Follow @heraldtimes1885 and @herald_times_faces_of on Instagram.
2. Tag @herald_times_faces_of in a post of your favorite photo. Include names, location, and one interesting fact about yourselves. We'll repost to our page for voting. (Or send your photo and info via direct message to our @herald_times_faces_of Instagram for posting.)
3. Spread the word! Tell family and friends to vote for your photo by liking or "hearting" it on the @herald_times_faces_of Instagram page.
4. The couple with the most Instagram hearts by Feb. 12 will win **\$50 in Chamber Bucks** to spend at local businesses!

OPEN TO ALL RBC RESIDENTS!

Join us on Instagram to participate!
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@heraldtimes1885

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RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES | Thursday, January 16, 2020



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Meeker
878-5045

MA FAMILIA RESTAURANT
Henry & Kris Arcolesse
410 Market, Meeker
878-4141

NORTHWEST AUTO SALES & SERVICE
485 Market St., Meeker
878-5026

WATT'S RANCH MARKET
271 E. Market, Meeker
878-5868

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Sports stories are posted in the HT as space allows in the following order: varsity stories, junior varsity stories, junior high stories, miscellaneous stories. Contact us at editor@ht1885.com with questions.



Thirty-eight teams from three states competed in last weekend's Tournament of Champions in Vernal, Utah, including the Rangely Panthers and the Meeker Cowboys. Both RBC teams will meet again Saturday in Rifle.

GAYLE ZIMMERMAN PHOTOS

RBC wrestlers compete in Utah tourney

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I This weekend the Rangely Panther wrestlers competed in the always difficult Tournament of Champions in Vernal, Utah. This year was a record-breaking year for the tournament as 38 teams competed from Utah, Wyoming and Colorado.

"We sat down with our very young team and decided what guys would benefit best from the JV and varsity brackets. We wanted competitive matches," said head coach JC Chumacero. "We decided to enter seven into the JV side. Just because it is a JV tournament does not mean there is a lack of competition. A lot of the teams come from very large schools and have a full roster plus one or two more. The competition at this tournament is very difficult."

Between the JV brackets and Saturday's second chance tournament, the Panthers came up with a few wins but also came up short with a few guys.

"All the matches were pretty competitive and that was what I was looking for, we are learning and growing," Chumacero said.

Colton Stevens (113), Sage Rhea (145) and Kasen LeBleu (152) came up short of wins at their first Tournament of Champions. The matches don't affect head to head or positioning at regionals.

"It's a big, intimidating tournament to come into as a freshman. I am happy with how they wrestled," Chumacero said.

Braxton Moore (120), Brent Cantrell (160) and Del Garner (195) all came away with wins.

"These are three guys we have been struggling with to get their confidence up. They looked like different wrestlers this weekend, and to come up with a win in this tournament should be a booster for them. They wrestled very well."

Junior Anthony Garner (160), who hasn't wrestled a tournament since this

exact time last year, competed for the first time this season. Garner finished the day 3-2 with a fourth-place finish. Three Panther wrestlers competed in the varsity bracket. Senior Dalton Dembowski (220) came up short of a win in the varsity side but secured a win in the second chance tournament.

"Dalton is looking better week to week. It is his senior year and he understands how important each match is," Chumacero said.

Sophomore Byron Mackay (HWT) was only one match away from earning his first TOC medal. "Mackay is right there, hanging with some very good wrestlers. He just seems to get better every week."

Sophomore Zane Varner (145) hasn't slowed down after the break, going 4-2 and earning a seventh-place medal. He won his first two matches by pin. His third match of the tournament was a tough draw against number one seed from Uintah August Harrison. He ended the first period up 4-3 and ended the second down only four points. He lost some points in the third and ended up losing by major decision. Harrison ended up being the 145 runner-up.

Varner won his first consolation match of Saturday once again by pin. This put him into the medal rounds.

"We lost in the consolation quarters putting us into the seventh and eighth place match," Chumacero said. "He just got caught in an upper-body match. Not taking anything away from his opponent, but I think it would have been a pretty close match if we wouldn't have got thrown."

Varner ended the tournament against regional foe Harley Workman from Norwood. This match came down to the final seconds but Varner walked away with a 6-5 victory, and head to head. "These young men continue to impress me week to week. They wrestled tough in a very hard tournament," Chumacero said.

The Panthers will compete in the Rifle Duals this weekend.

By **TIFFANY JEHOEK**
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I The Cowboys got a lot of mat time this last weekend at the Tournament of Champions (TOC) in Vernal, Utah. The team wrestled 90 matches through the course of the three tournaments, after hosting Grand Valley in a dual the night before the tournament began.

Wrapping up Thursday night with an at home victory in the dual against the Cardinals, head coach JC Watt commented that the "young kids performed really well." Freshmen Owen Hanneman and Elijah LeBlanc both pinning for wins; Hanneman pinned quickly and LeBlanc pinned in the third after a tough battle and down in the points.

The TOC is comprised of three individual tournaments all ran concurrently, varsity, JV, and then on day two the second chance.

"We did well," said Watt, "everyone is improving and working really hard."

In the varsity tournament the Cowboys had two wrestlers entered at 106 pounds, Trae Kennedy and Ty Goedert. In unfortunate bracketing the two had to wrestle each other in the consolation bracket to see who would go on to wrestle for seventh place. Kennedy

with a pin for the win went on to wrestle Skewes of Duchene, Utah and bring home seventh place.

Colby Clatterbaugh at 182 pounds once again wrestled a good tournament. Losing in the semi-finals to Simmons of Montrose, Colo. he was once again faced with Swift from Uintah who had pinned him to take first at the Warrior Classic; in a 8-4 decision, Clatterbaugh took third place.

In the JV tournament at Tyson Portwood (132) pinned his opponent early in the second period to take third place and Tanner Musser (220) also brought home third after losing in round one and battling all the way through the consolation bracket.

The final of the tournaments for the weekend was the second chance, a tournament for those who lose out on day one, it gives them an opportunity to wrestle on day two. Meeker had three Cowboys on top of the podium in the second chance; Connor Blunt (132), Charles Curry (126), and Dax Sheridan (160) all took first place.

Meeker has a week of duals ahead of them. Wednesday night in Hayden to take on the Tigers, Thursday at home against Palisade, matches will begin at 6 pm, and then a day of wrestling at the Rifle Duals on Saturday.

SCHEDULE

MEEKER COWBOYS

- **WRESTLING**
- 1/16 @ HOME v. Palisade, 6p
- 1/18 @ Rifle Duals, TBA
- 1/24 @ Hotchkiss/Norwoods, 5p
- **BASKETBALL**
- 1/17 @ HOME v. Caprock, 4, 5:30, 7
- 1/18 @ Vail Christian, 1, 2:30, 4, 5:30
- **GIRLS SWIMMING**
- 1/18 @ Glenwood Meet

RANGELY PANTHERS

- **WRESTLING**
- 1/17 TBA
- 1/18 @ Rifle Duals, TBA
- 1/24 @ Paonia Duals, TBA
- **BASKETBALL**
- 1/17 @ HOME v. Vail Christian, 4, 5:30, 7
- 1/18 @ Plateau Valley, 1, 2:30, 4

Schedules provided by School Districts and are subject to change without notice.

Lady Cowboys 2-0 in league play

By TIFFANY JEHOEK
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I The first week of district opponents completed and the lady Cowboy basketball team is 2-0 on the league and 7-2 overall.

Hosting West Grand last Friday they came out ready to play, the start was a little slower than West Grand's in the first quarter, but by half time the Cowboys were up 29-26.

Senior Julia Dinwiddie and junior Sarah Kracht each had stellar performances; Dinwiddie scored 25 points and led the team with 16 rebounds and Kracht scored 23 points.

In the second half Meeker continued to dominate outscoring the Mustangs 33-26 for a final score of 62-52.

Traveling to Walden the next day to battle the Wildcats four Cowboys bested ten points through the net: Dinwiddie leading with 16, Kracht and Kirsten Brown each with 13, and Tilly Brown with 12. Off the boards, Dinwiddie and Haley Follman each with twelve total rebounds helped to lead the Cowboys to the 67-63 victory.

This coming weekend is another home and away split. On Friday the Cowboys host Caprock and then Saturday they travel to Vail to take on Vail Christian.

The girls are currently ranked 13 in Colorado 2A basketball and only Rangely, who is ranked 10, is a district member with a current higher ranking. These two teams are not slated to play until February 7, at Rangely.



MHS senior Julia Dinwiddie scored 25 points and led the Lady Cowboys with 16 rebounds.

CATHIE DOLAN PHOTO

MHS boys win in Walden

By TIFFANY JEHOEK
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I It is a tough season so far for the Meeker Cowboys basketball team. Going into week two after the break they were 1-5 and not ranked in the top 25.

This last weekend brought them their second win of the season in Walden against the North Park Wildcats. Dominating the last three quarters of the game Saturday, the scoring was led by senior Cole Rogers who had two 3-pointers and with his other goals scored 32 points. Lane Anderson, the only other member to break double-digit scoring, had 15 points.

"We struggled early," said head coach Klark Kindler. "We were one for eight in our first quarter free throws, and when we started making them in the second quarter we also got better at attacking the basket and shooting, and I am hopeful this win will build some confidence."

The team is now 2-6 overall and 1-1 in the league. They were defeated at home on Friday by the West Grand Mustangs 45-39, which makes them even for league play. Ahead 31-28 at the end of the third quarter, they couldn't keep up the scoring in the fourth and allowed too many points by West Grand. Once again Rogers led the team with 20 points, 12 from three-pointers, and Spud White had 11. In the end it came down to free throws and some loose balls that the Cowboys couldn't recover.

"This was a good league game, and two teams on the court that played hard," commented Kindler.

This weekend they will host Caprock on Friday and travel to Vail Christian on Saturday.



MHS senior Cole Rogers was the leading scorer for the Cowboys against Walden and West Grand.

CATHIE DOLAN PHOTO

Panther boys 1-0 in league

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I The Rangely boys' basketball team defeated the Hayden Tigers 66-51 on the road Saturday. Rangely won their first league game in convincing fashion behind Dylan LeBleu's 18 points and four three-pointers. On paper, the match looked even but the Panthers controlled the boards and the tempo as well as almost doubling their total three-point goals on the season — Ryan Richens chipped in two three-balls in the first half with Keihlin Myers hitting one in the second. The Panthers took a 46-21 lead into halftime. By the third quarter, nine Rangely cagers had scored and the Panthers increased their lead to 62-29. In the JV contest Rangely came back from an 18-10 deficit in the first quarter and held on for a 49-46 win.

The Panthers preceded their league campaign by hosting the Manila Mustangs on Friday. Manila, the No. 6 ranked 1A team in Utah, earned the 69-40 victory behind 14 three-pointers. The Mustangs led 35-16 at the half, but the Panthers continued to battle and outscored Manila in the third quarter. Unfortunately, Rangely undermined their comeback with poor free-throw shooting, hitting only one for 10 in the second half. Manila also struggled at the charity stripe, making only three for 12.

"The boys never gave up. They competed well from start to finish," said head coach Kyle Boydston. "Besides the poor free-throw shooting and a few too many turnovers, I felt the boys showed a lot of improvement at both ends of the court."

Sydney Cole led the Panthers with 14 points, while Gabe Polley and Dylan LeBleu pitched in 12 and nine points, respectively. Both the JV team and the freshman team lost to Manila.

Rangely traveled to Olathe on Tuesday, Jan. 14, hosts Vail Christian on Friday, Jan. 17, and travels to Plateau Valley High School on Saturday, Jan. 18.

RHS senior Ethan Byers (#3) takes a shot during the Panthers game against the Manila Mustangs. The Panthers are scheduled to play Vail Christian this Friday at home beginning at 7 p.m.

MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO



Rangely's lady Panthers prepare for their game against Manila. Junior Dixie Rhea (#20), freshman Rylee Allred (#32), sophomore Shauna Lapp (#14), sophomore Adelynn Halcomb (#23), senior Zoey Peck (#13), senior Susan Gillard (#12), senior Hannah Wilkie (#4), sophomore Mary Scoggins (#11) and junior Kacie Lapp (#3).

MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

Lady Panthers 7-1 for the season

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I Coming out of the holiday break is one of the toughest challenges for a basketball coach. Determined not to allow the holiday break to deter any success from December, the lady Panthers and the coaching staff assembled for a meeting to set standards and goals for the season. Since this meeting the Panthers have been working hard at honing skills and talents. The girls put their efforts to the test on Friday, Jan. 10 when the Manila Mustangs traveled from Utah to take on the lady Panthers. The two teams met in the Manila Holiday Classic tournament and the Panthers secured a 54-24 victory off a strong defensive effort. Led by seniors Hannah Wilkie, Zoey Peck and Susan Gillard the Panthers wanted to continue this strong defensive effort into 2020.

The Panthers opened up the scoring quickly against the Mustangs in the first period as Kacie Lapp scored on layups in their first possessions. Lapp scored all 10 points in the quarter for the Panthers. On defense the Panthers surrendered six points to the Mustangs to lead 10-6 at the end of the first quarter. In the team huddle the Panthers expressed the need to rotate better on defense and tighten

up their defense altogether. In the second quarter the Panthers only allowed the Mustangs one bucket while scoring 15. Hannah Wilkie led the in the second quarter with eight points and the Panthers took a 25-8 lead into the halftime break.

The Mustangs attempted to tighten up their defense on Lapp and Wilkie. Mary Scoggins stepped up and scored all seven of the Panthers points. The Panthers only allowed five total points in the third quarter which put the score at 32-13 in favor of the Panthers.

In the fourth quarter, a host of Panthers added to the scoring attempts as Zoey Peck scored four points, Adelynn Halcomb nailed a three-pointer, Shauna Lapp scored two and Dixie Rhea scored one point. The lady Panthers looked to be in cruise control in the fourth quarter as they outscored the Mustangs 14-4 to close the game out at 46-17 for their second win of the season against the Mustangs.

The Panthers were led statistically by Lapp (13 points, 11 rebounds, five steals), Wilkie (12 points, five rebounds, four steals) and Scoggins (11 points, eight rebounds, two assists). The 13 points and 11 rebounds marked Lapp's third double-double game of the year. The Panthers pushed their record to 6-1 overall on the year

with this win.

On Saturday, Jan. 11 the lady Panthers took to the road for their first Western Slope League match against the Hayden Tigers. The Tigers came into the game with one of the best records in the Western Slope League with seven wins, one loss and one league win against the North Park Wildcats. Each of the two teams featured numerous players with double-digit scoring averages on the year and set up to be a very wild game.

The Panthers brought their best defense of the season so far in the first and second quarters as they forced 11 turnovers by the Tigers. The girls also had their best quarters of offense this season in the first and second scoring 13 points in the first quarter and 16 in the second. The lady Panthers backed up their offense only allowing the Tigers to score five points in the first quarter and five in the second and took a 29-10 lead into the halftime break. The Panthers were led in scoring by Lapp who had 11 points in the first half, Wilkie 11, Scoggins four, and Halcomb with three. Strong plays in the paint and converting their free throw attempts pushed the Panthers to their halftime lead.

Coming out of the break the Tigers went into a halfcourt-press defense that prevented the Panthers

from getting into an offensive groove while the Tigers put up a score of 14 points to the Panthers four points in the fourth quarter. The Rangely girls weathered the storm by the Tigers and kept a 33-24 lead heading into the fourth quarter. In the fourth quarter, Scoggins scored five points on free throws to lead the Panthers. Kacie Lapp added three points to push her game total to 16 points. With 11 rebounds, Lapp added to her double-double totals on the year to four games with at least two stats in double figures. The Panthers were able to outlast the Tigers in the final seconds and secure their first league win this season 41-37.

The lady Panthers record now stands at 7-1 overall and 1-0 in Western Slope League play. The girls took on the Olathe Pirates on Jan. 14 for a non-league matchup. The Panthers will host the Vail Christian Saints for a league match-up on Friday, Jan. 17. The Saints are currently 2-4 on the season and 0-1 in league play. Following the league game on Friday, the Lady Panthers will travel to Collbran to take on the hosting Plateau Valley Cowboys in a league match-up. The Panthers gave the Cowboys their only loss of the season before the holiday break when the Panthers won 42-28.

Swimmers inch closer to state qualification

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Back in the water after Christmas break and off the blocks the Moffat County Bulldogs have their first state qualifier, Kelsey McDiffett will be heading to state in February for her third year in the 100-yard breaststroke.

The two-day meet in Montrose, Colo. with prelims on Friday and finals on Saturday had the Bulldogs with 200 freestyle relay team of McDiffett, Jeni Kincher, Alexa Neton, and Ellina Jones amongst other qualifiers making it to the finals on day two. The 200 relay is now within a second of qualifying for state and each member of the team swam their leg in under 30 seconds.

Kincher placed 14 in the 50-yard freestyle with a time

of 31.07 seconds, and 13 in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 1 minute 11.04 seconds.

Katie Lockwood, swimming the 100-yard breaststroke for the JV, took second place with a time of 1 minute 29.28 seconds, her highest placing this season.

"Everyone cut time," said head coach Melany Neton and "we are now looking forward to the week ahead, focusing on their relay starts and turns, and hopefully doing some fast pacing work to gain those last hundredths of a second."

The team is close to sending more girls to state in a couple races and the small increments of time that can be shaved off will be vital to getting them there.

They travel to Glenwood for their second to last regular season meet on January 18.



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We are going to Chinatown to...

...watch the parade and to eat.



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Kids: color stuff in!



2020 The Year of the Rat

squeak!



In 2020 the Chinese New Year starts on January 25th. During the two weeks of the holiday, families eat together, visit and honor their ancestors. People give wishes for good luck, good health, peace, joy and wealth.

This celebration is also known as "Spring Festival."

The Chinese calendar has 12 animals, each standing for one year. This year, 2020, is the **Year of the Rat**. Read about people born in the year of the rat below. Fill in the puzzle.

People born in the year of the rat:

- are very _____ and want to make something of themselves.
- handle _____ well; they can make it grow!
- are good at getting what they want by _____ people.
- can hold _____ and will want to "get back" at someone who has treated them unfairly.
- look for the next big chance or _____ to grab.
- pay a lot of attention to detail and need things to be _____.
- are quick-_____, so they may suddenly become angry.
- are great _____; people look to them for direction and advice.
- will not let anyone or anything get in the way of their _____.
- are very _____ and likeable; they have the ability to make many friends.

One vowel is missing from the words in this list of the animal symbols of the Chinese Zodiac.

Which vowel? Fill it in.



In what year were you born?

If you were born in 2008 then you were born in the year of the rat. Due to its many good qualities, being born in this year is a good thing, not a bad thing!

- Rat (2008, 2020)
- ____x (2009, 2021)
- Tiger (2010, 2022)
- Rabbit (2011, 2023)
- Drag__n (2012, 2024)
- Snake (2013, 2025)
- H__rse (2014, 2026)
- G__at (2015, 2027)
- M__nkey (2016, 2028)
- R____ster (2017, 2029)
- D__g (2018, 2030)
- Pig (2019, 2031)

Chinese New Year Celebration!

(Best Wishes and Congratulations!)

1. charming
2. tempered
3. leaders
4. trusting
5. controlling
6. perfect
7. grudges
8. money
9. honest
10. ambitious
11. opportunity
12. success

The Jade Emperor, ruler of heaven, wanted all the animals on earth to come visit him.

The rat was the first animal to show up when the Jade Emperor called them together, so he is the first animal in the Chinese zodiac.

Look for me in my year, 2021.

- can be very _____ of other people, and can sometimes be taken advantage of.
- are usually very _____ and stay true to their word.

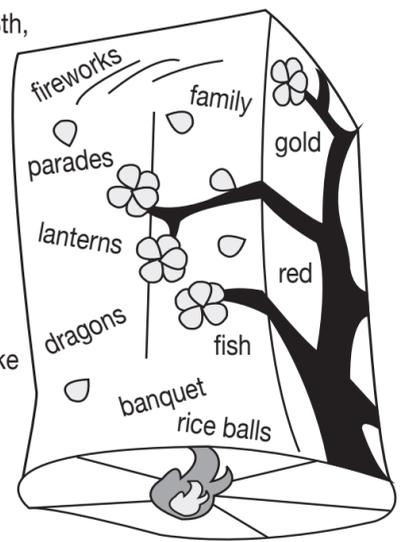
The Lantern Festival

In 2020, the Lantern Festival takes place on February 8th, the last day of the Chinese New Year celebration. Tales about the beginning of this holiday tell about gods who had the power to give good or bad luck and good fortune. The villagers wished to please the gods and they had festivities to entertain and honor them.

One story is about the Jade Emperor, the most powerful god in heaven, who saw his favorite goose killed by people in a town. He was so angered that he decided to destroy the village. The other gods warned the villagers. The villagers hung red lanterns and set off fireworks to make the village seem like it was already burning. The clever people saved themselves and their village.

Today, people have fun making red lanterns, then they hang them or carry them into the street where they join in parades or watch "dragons" dancing.

Find and circle the 12 words below in the other lantern:



Jade Emperor lion dance

Some of the largest Chinese New Year celebrations in the United States are in:

- San Francisc____, Calif____rnia
- New Y__rk, New Y__rk
- H__ust__n, Texas

One vowel is missing. Which one?

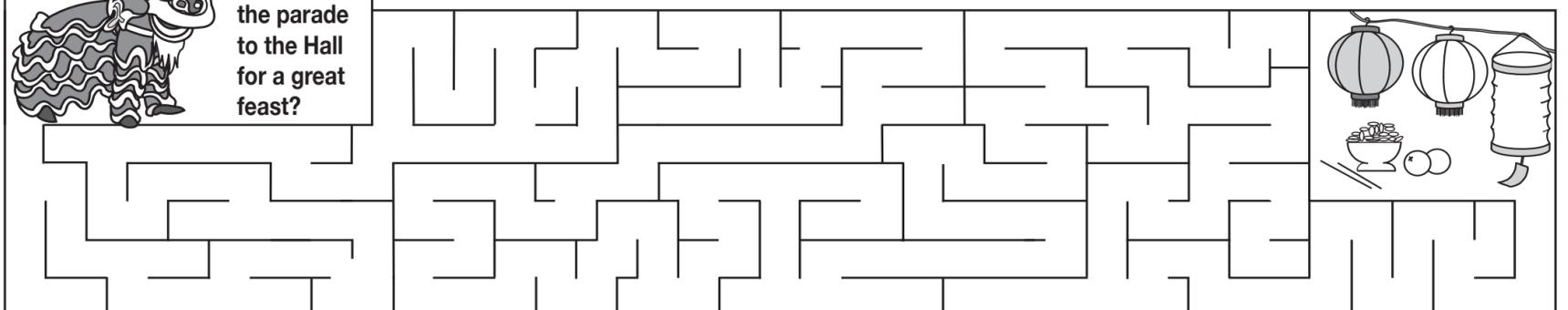
J H M S X R
L J O P W A J I L G
J L G D R A G O N S Q R
L Y A E O N C V C M D L I G
M B J L D T L A Y H Y I I C K
N F V F A B E T D V L Q L O E M G
V X A I N A X E J I W N S N B Y L
E A H R T N X T M L C P X D A E S
O P I E E Q V A C P R X T A L B P
B H L W R U F H H E E W T N L X C
A T M O N E U S Q Z D R O C S Z A
D N R S T I K O T X X O E R J
B K Z F U X I S X Y C R M G
S G F K D P A R A D E S
I V N C A I O L M K
Q S N V D K



Can you help us lead the parade to the Hall for a great feast?

Parading to the Hall

The lion dancers are leading the parade-goers to the Hall of Lanterns. Once there, they will enjoy a giant banquet and other festive activities!



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DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald
125 years ago

A Lay correspondent says that about 30 outfits have been up on Elkhead recently slaughtering elk in a shameful manner, and a game warden hasn't been seen in that section since last spring — when elk meat wasn't fit to eat and no one desired any. If is the same old story, and if the present legislature does not make a radical change in the game laws there will be no necessity for further legislation two years hence.

Ranches are still on the rise. The latest purchaser on the river is County Assessor Jim Hayes, who has bought the old Attix ranch from G.S. Allsebrook, paying a good round figure therefore.

The Meeker Herald
100 years ago

The P.E.O. Sisterhood — At their last meeting, the P.E.O. ladies' society elected and installed the following officers: Pres. — Mrs. Julia Wilson. V. Pres. — Mrs. Ella Rigby. Rec. Sec. — Mrs. Florence McWilliams. Cor. Sec. — Mrs. Ada Moulton. Treas. — Mrs. Addie Walbridge. Chaplain — Mrs. Belle Shaver. Guard — Mrs. Virginia Shepherd. Journalist — Mrs. Winnifred Simms. Organist — Mrs. Merle Oldland.

Tom Kilduff is enjoying the balmy breezes of old Pennsylvania.

There will be the usual number of Meeker and Rio Blanco people in attendance at the Stock Show.

The Meeker Herald
50 years ago

Forrest Nelson, who has been featured in several magazines and is widely known for his sheep breeding program, will be assisting with the

college judging of sheep and taking reasons from the college students at the annual National Western Stock Show.

Jay Rector, county commissioner from Rangely, was named chairman of the Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners Tuesday afternoon.

There is a real sense of pride in paying taxes in these United States. Most of us could be just as proud though, for half the money.

A large number of county residents plan to take in at least part of the stock show and wool conventions in Denver this coming week.

The Meeker Herald
25 years ago

Snow isn't unusual hereabouts, but the 13-inch Monday morning surprise was just a bit out of the ordinary because of the relatively large buildup in such a short time. The 13-inch figure is strictly unofficial, based on snowfall amounts readers reported to The Meeker Herald. Officially, the snowfall translates to .52 inches of precipitation, according to the Bureau of Land Management office in Meeker. We need even more snow.

Rangely Times
50 years ago

Rangely retail sales during July, August and September of 1969, totaled \$1,200,000, up \$146,000 from the second quarter total.

The Panther wrestling squad, undefeated in league action with wins over Rifle and Steamboat, take on two more league opponents this weekend. Pictured are E. Nielsen (95), Paul Pilcher (107), Kirby Klements (115), Bert Usury (123), John Hume (130), Rod Smuts (137), Skip Smults (145), Ron Nelsen (154), Kevin Poole (165), Doug Dembowski (175), Mark Schumacher (185) and

FROM THE MEEKER HERALD, 1913 ...

Gray Wolves

The winters got so bad for a while, gray wolves were literally knocking on people's doors. Bounties were offered and some lucky people had the good fortune to bring in a couple of month's wages in just a day...

Gray wolves have been unusually destructive to livestock this spring in the vicinity of Meeker and many of the stockmen have lost from two to a dozen head. And as a steer or cow is worth something these days the bounty paid by the county and different stock associations is quite an incentive to the hunters and trappers to go after the wolves.

Mike Hefley (Hvy.).

Both political parties are so busy sniping at their own leadership they don't have time to be really mad at each other.

Rangely Times
25 years ago

The BLM held a hearing last Thursday on proposed changes in the White River Resource area. From an industry standpoint, new exploration in Rio Blanco County would be adversely affected. Also at risk are hunting and recreation opportunities.

Rangely District Hospital is pleased to announce that Debra L. Freeman has successfully completed the California College Health Sciences' Respiratory Technician curriculum.

TEXT AND WHATEVER JUST DON'T TEXT AND

STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG





CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PAYROLL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
TOWN OF MEEKER
12/31/19

GENERAL FUND
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$47,059.77
CCOERA, Emp. Retirement - PD, \$2,448.40
CCOERA, Emp. Retirement, \$6,382.88
CCOERA, Emp. Loan Payments, \$754.07
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Ins., \$19,848.22
Emp. Withholding, Federal Withholding, \$4,277.83
Emp. Withholding, State Withholding, \$1,820.28
Emp. Withholding, Medicare Withholding, \$1,803.16
Emp. Withholding, SS Withholding, \$4,847.42
MHRC, Emp. Donation, \$26.50
Standard Ins. Co., Life/AD&D Ins., \$794.74
Washington National Ins., Cancer Ins., \$192.29
Andrea's Market St., Reimb. Business Grant, \$1,777.00
ABILA, Acct. Software, \$2,408.00
AGNC, Annual Dues, \$2,500.00
All Copy Products, Dec. Copier Lease, \$244.36
AlSCO, Dec. Coveralls, \$215.33
Atmos, Dec. Natural Gas, \$873.89
Belland Builders, Reimb. Business Grant, \$4,380.00
CAACO, Annual Membership / AC, \$45.00
Century Link, Dec. Phone Svc., \$475.83
CIRSA, Annual Liability Ins. Premium, \$51,770.16
Club 20, Annual Membership, \$200.00
CMCA, Annual Membership, \$165.00
CML, Membership Dues, \$1,432.00
CMRS - PB, Reimb. Dec. Pstg., \$63.00
Colo. Dept. of Rev., Processing Fee for OJW's, \$60.00
Colo. Document Security, Document Dest., \$50.00
Community Counts, Annual Membership, \$100.00
Ducey's Elec., Heat Tape, \$334.29
Eagle River Waste, Dec. Trash Svc., \$150.00
Gall's, Name Tag / PD, \$15.70
Grant Dentistry, Reimb. Business Grant, \$4,380.00
Herald Times, Dec. Legal Pub., \$167.08
ICP, Compliance Posters, \$50.00
IIMC, Annual Membership, \$280.00
Lohmiller & Co., HVAC Service Contract, \$1,332.00
Master Petroleum, Hydraulic Oil, \$441.96
McGuire Auto, Motor Oil, Seat Covers, \$331.87
Meeker Auto, Grinding Wheel, \$20.33
Meeker Chamber, Main St. Program Grant Reimb., \$3,350.00
Meeker Sportsman, Donation, \$19,000.00
MGM, Fence Post, \$564.98
Northwest Auto, Repair Gunlock, \$191.00
Olszewski, Massih, Dec. Legal Fees, \$2,380.50
Pinnacol Assurance, Annual Workers Comp Prem., \$14,286.94
RBC Clerk & Recorder, 2019 Election Expenses, \$1,188.90
RBC Fleet Mgt., Dec. Fuel, \$1,416.27
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Dec. Claims, \$1,567.11
Samuelson's, Fence Material, \$1,560.98
Skiyor Meeker Colo., Event Donation, \$800.00
Sleepy Cat Yogi Shop, Reimb. Business Grant, \$4,380.00
The Fork, Reimb. Business Grant, \$988.35
Union Telephone, Dec. Cell Phone Service, \$516.10
Valley Hardware, Trash Bags, Ice Melt, \$268.80
Watt's, Dog Treats, Office Supplies, \$64.57
Western Slope Consult., Survey Market & Zoning

PUBLIC NOTICES

Code, \$16,862.50
WREA, Dec. Elect., \$2,081.90
Total General Fund: \$235,793.46

WATER FUND
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$13,173.29
CCOERA, Emp. Retirement, \$2,564.80
CCOERA, Employee Loans, \$825.58
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Ins., \$6,309.66
Emp. Withholding, SS Withholding, \$2,483.26
Emp. Withholding, Medicare Withholding, \$580.78
Emp. Withholding, Federal Withholding, \$2,009.97
Emp. Withholding, State Withholding, \$956.72
MHRC, Employee Donation, \$18.50
Standard Ins. Co., Life/AD&D Ins., \$309.07
Washington National Ins., Cancer Ins., \$103.21
US Postmaster, Water Billing Pstg., \$182.14
ABILA, Support Acct. Software, \$2,408.00
All Copy Products, Dec. Copier Lease, \$53.64
AlSCO, Dec. Coveralls, \$215.33
Atmos, Dec. Natural Gas, \$481.18
Century Link, Dec. Phone Svc., \$98.79
CIRSA, Liability Ins. Premium, \$11,355.40
CMRS - PB, Reimb. Dec. Pstg., \$129.50
Data West, Software Renewal, \$459.17
Eaton Sales & Svc., Water Loadout Keys, \$1,360.55
Gould Construction, Install Wells Electrical & Piping, \$109,907.20
Herald Times, Dec. Legal Pub., \$25.92
Master Petroleum, Hydraulic Oil, \$441.97
McGuire Auto, Motor Oil, Seat Covers, \$175.05
Meeker Auto, Grinding Wheels, \$35.14
Meeker Sand & Gravel, 3/4" RB Shaman Trail, \$236.53
Olszewski, Massih, Dec. Legal Fees, \$342.00
Pinnacol Assurance, Annual Workers Comp Prem., \$2,671.06
RBC Fleet Mgt., Dec. Fuel, \$465.49
RMR, Dec. Claims, \$468.10
Samuelson's, Adhesive, \$7.73
TDA Const., Backhoe & Dump Trk Use, \$1,117.50
Timberline Electric, SCADA Trouble Shooting, \$1,649.00
U.S. Postal Service, First Class Presort, \$235.50
Union Telephone, Dec. Cell Phone Svc., \$84.03
UNCC, Line Locates, \$31.24
Valley Hardware, Trash Bags, Padlocks, \$54.22
Watt's, Office Supplies, \$7.53
WREA, Dec. Electric, \$2,978.80
Total Water Fund \$166,818.75
Total All Funds \$402,612.21
Published: January 16, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF MEEKER
MUNICIPAL ELECTION
April 7, 2020

TO:
Any person, who is eligible by law, to be a candidate for the Offices of Mayor or Trustee for the Town of Meeker to be elected at the Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 please take notice:
A candidate's qualifications for eligibility to hold public office are:
1) Be a registered elector;

PUBLIC NOTICES

2) Attain the age of eighteen years or older on the date of the election and;
3) Reside in the town of Meeker for a period of at least twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding the date of the election.
Nomination petitions may be circulated and signed beginning on Tuesday, January 7, 2020.
Nomination petitions and an information sheet for prospective candidates will be available at Town Hall, 345 Market Street, Meeker, on or after 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 7, 2020. Regular office hours at Town Hall are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
The last day for the circulation and signing of nomination petitions shall be Monday, January 27, 2020, on or before 5:00 p.m. All nomination petitions shall be filed with the Town Clerk at Town Hall by this date and time.
The following Town Officers will be elected at the election:
1) Mayor - two-year term;
2) Three members of the Town Board of Trustees - all four-year terms.
Dated this 18th day of December 2019.
TOWN OF MEEKER
By: Amy Tupy, Town Clerk
Published December 26, 2019, January 2, 9 and 16, 2020.
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Dwight W. Frantz, a/k/a Dwight Webster Frantz, Deceased, Rio Blanco County District Court Case Number 19PR30019.
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before April 24, 2020, or the claims may be forever barred.
James Oren Frantz, Personal Representative
c/o Olszewski, Massih & Maurer, P.C.
P.O. Box 916
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602
Published: January 2, 9, & 16, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Gladys E. Williams, Deceased
Rio Blanco County District Court
Case No. 20PR1
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before May 9, 2020, or said claims may be forever barred.
Orlando L. Williams II
1355 Em Ave.
Silt, CO 81652
Published: January 9, 16 and 23, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Purchase of a 15 passenger ADA compliant, Non CDL bus.
The EASTERN RIO BLANCO METROPOLITAN RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT, a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, is soliciting bid proposals from qualified firms for the purchase of one 15 passenger ADA compliant, Non CDL pas-

PUBLIC NOTICES

senger bus.
Minimum Specifications:
- 15 Passenger
- Non CDL
- Gas or Diesel
- New or Low mileage Used
- ADA compliant lift, curbside
- Automatic snow chains
- Vinyl wrap
- Delivery to Meeker, Colorado
Proposals must be received by the District before Thursday, January 23rd, 2020 at 5pm to the District's administrative office, Meeker Recreation Center, 101 Ute Road, Meeker, CO 81641 or digitally at rodneym@erbmrec.com. Proposals received after the submission deadline will not be considered. ERBM reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. ERBM may accept the proposal that, in its estimation, represents the best value to the District. For more information, contact Rodney Gerloff, Parks and Facilities Manager at rodneym@erbmrec.com or (970) 878-7420.
EASTERN RIO BLANCO METROPOLITAN RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
By: Sean VonRoenn, Executive Director
Published: January 9 and 16, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Public Notice
Meeker Housing Authority Vacancies
The Town Board of Trustees is seeking letters of interest from qualified individuals to fill five positions on an Interim Board for the Meeker Housing Authority. Qualifications for the positions are to be: a registered voter within Rio Blanco County; eighteen years of age or older and must have resided within Rio Blanco County for at least twelve consecutive months immediately preceding the date of the appointment. For further information please call Lisa Cook at 878-5344.
Mayor Regas K. Halandras
Board of Trustees
Town of Meeker
Published: January 16, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times



PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN OF MEEKER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, January 21, 2020
7:00 P.M. Board Meeting
Town Hall
345 Market Street, Meeker, CO

I. Call to Order
II. Pledge of Allegiance
III. Roll Call
IV. Approval of the Agenda
V. Approval of the Previous Minutes
VI. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
VII. Public Participation
This is an opportunity for Citizens to bring comments and questions to the Board of Trustees not being addressed in the Regular Meeting Agenda. In consideration of other regularly scheduled agenda items, comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less. Citizens are asked to approach the podium state their name and address for the record.
VIII. Staff Updates
IX. Public Hearings:
a. Request from Meeker Arts and Cultural Council for a Special Event Liquor Permit for the Meeker Int'l. Ecology Program Fundraiser, Feb. 8, 2020 at the Fairfield Center, 200 Main Street.
b. Consideration of adoption of Ordinance #01-2020 allowing for the Administrative Approval of the Reissuance of Existing Liquor Licenses per Colo. Liquor Code.
X. New Business:
a. Renewal of Chippers Downtown Tavern Liquor License at 285 6th Street.
b. Discussion regarding a proposal by SWCA Environmental Consultants to conduct a study for future river enhancement projects.
XI. Mayor's remarks
XII. Town Manager's Report
XIII. Town Attorney's Report
XIV. Other Board Business
XV. Adjournment
Published: January 9, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

1	3	6	5	8	2	7	9	4
7	2	5	1	4	9	3	6	8
9	8	4	7	3	6	1	2	5
6	9	3	2	1	5	8	4	7
5	7	2	8	6	4	9	3	1
4	1	8	3	9	7	6	5	2
8	5	7	9	2	3	4	1	6
2	4	9	6	7	1	5	8	3
3	6	1	4	5	8	2	7	9

Public Notices online:
www.ht1885.com/classifieds/public-notices/

Notice of General Municipal Election Conducted as a Mail Ballot Election
To Be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020
At Town Hall, 209 E Main, Rangely, Colorado

I, Marybel Cox, Town Clerk of Rangely, Colorado, I DO HEREBY GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE of a General Municipal Election for Town of Rangely Mayor and Council members to be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at which time there will be elected:
One Mayor, serving a 2-year term
and
Three Council members, serving a 4-year term

Each position shall be voted upon by the entire electorate of the Town.
The person receiving the greatest number of votes for the Mayor, 2-year term shall be elected.
The first three people receiving the greatest number of votes for the Council member 4-year terms shall be elected.
***NOTE: The First day that nomination petitions may be picked up and circulated starts JANUARY 7, 2020 and must be returned to the Clerk no later than JANUARY 27, 2020.**
Nomination petitions will be available at the Town of Rangely, 209 E. Main, Rangely, Colorado.
In order to run for Town Council. Candidates must be:
✓ Registered electors 18 year of age or older
✓ Resident of the municipality for at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the election
✓ Cannot be a candidate for (2) two offices at the same election
There will be one question that will be placed on the ballot at the time of this release.
Every person who has attained the age of 18 years possessing the following qualifications is entitled to register to vote at all municipal elections:
A) He/she is a citizen of the United States;
B) He/she resided in the State of Colorado for thirty days prior to the municipal election at which he offers to vote.
The Town of Rangely will conduct a mail ballot election. Ballots may be deposited up to and on the day of the election at the Collection box until 7:00 p.m. April 7, 2020 at Town Hall, 209 E Main, Rangely Colorado, 81648.
Ballots will be mailed to registered electors unless an absentee ballot request application is completed. Your application must be returned to the town clerk's office on or before April 3, 2020. You can download absentee ballot applications at www.rangely.com under divisions/administrative services/town clerk/elections or come into the Town of Rangely offices at 209 E Main for blank forms.
Marybel Cox
Town Clerk/Treasurer
Published: January 9 and 16, 2020 in the Rio Blanco Herald Times

TOWN OF RANGELY BOARD TRUSTEE VACATED SEAT

The Town of Rangely will be accepting letters of interest to fill a vacated seat on the Town Board of Trustees. The remaining term of office on the position will be until April 2022. Please submit all Letters of interest to the Town of Rangely, 209 E Main, Rangely, Co 81648, ATTN; Town Clerk, no later than January 28, 2020.

Marybel Cox, Clerk/Treasurer
mcox@rangelyco.gov
970-675-8476

Published: January 9 and 16, 2020 in the Rio Blanco Herald Times

COMBINED NOTICE - MAILING
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 19-21

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On October 21, 2019, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Rio Blanco records. Original Grantor(s): KENNY LAMOREAUX
Original Beneficiary(ies): MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., ACTING SOLELY AS NOMINEE FOR FIDELITY MORTGAGE COMPANY
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Date of Deed of Trust: February 23, 2009
County of Recording: Rio Blanco
Recording Date of Deed of Trust: February 27, 2009
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.): 295106
Original Principal Amount: \$160,105.00
Outstanding Principal Balance: \$128,262.58
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
LOTS 16 AND 17, DRAGON WASH SUBDIVISION, IN THE TOWN OF RANGELY, COLORADO AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY AT RECEPTION NO. 226794
Also known by street and number as: 911 TAOS DRIVE, RANGELY, CO 81648.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust. THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 02/19/2020, at Office of the Public Trustee, Rio Blanco County Courthouse, 555 Main Street, Meeker CO 81641, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorney's fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication: 12/26/2019
Last Publication: 1/23/2020
Name of Publication: Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF RIGHTS
YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF SAID STATUTES, AS SUCH STATUTES ARE PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS SHALL BE SENT WITH ALL MAILED COPIES OF THIS NOTICE. HOWEVER, YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE DETERMINED BY PREVIOUS STATUTES.

• A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-104 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED;

• A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-302 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE;

• IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

• IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov

Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Iowa City, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov

DATE: 10/22/2019
Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado
By: Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
Lauren Tew #45041
Monica Kadras #34904
Nichole Williams #49611
Randall M. Chin #31149
Weldon P. Phillips, Jr #31827
Barrett Frappier & Weisserman, LLP 1199 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711
Attorney File # 8628661
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
©Public Trustee's Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015

“Congress shall make no law respecting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

HT1885.COM

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 6, COLORADO
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS
IN WATER DIVISION 6

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are hereby notified that the following pages comprise a resume of Applications and Amended Applications filed in the office of Water Division 6, during the month of **December 2019**.

2019CW13 RIO BLANCO COUNTY Application for Absolute Water Rights. *Applicant:* Sandra Bradfield, 69616 Hwy 64, Meeker, CO 81641. Csbard021j3@gmail.com, 970-878-4397.

Name of structure: Bradfield Pasture Spring, E263766.53 N4433004.28, Zone 13. *Source:* Latitude 40.014205 Longitude 107.767891. Per Jennifer Perkins NRCS Steamboat Field Office Accuracy of location displayed on GPS device. *PLSS:* Rio Blanco County, SE4, NE4, Section 36, T1N, R93W, 6th PM. *Source:* Deed/Handheld Garmin Etrex Vista GPS Unit. *Street address:* County Rd 6, Meeker, CO 81641. *Source:* Unnamed spring and run off from snow melt White River Tributary. *Appropriation date:* 1998. *How appropriated:* Water was contained in a dirt tank for livestock use. *Date applied to beneficial use:* 1998. *Amount claimed:* Absolute: 8 GPM. *Use/proposed use:* Livestock and wildlife use. *Applicant does not intend to use this water right to supplement irrigation on an area of land already irrigated under another water right. Purpose of non-irrigated portion of right:* Used for watering of livestock and wildlife. *Names and addresses of other owners:* Applicant. *Remarks:* Water has been used to water livestock and wildlife since 1988.

2019CW3031; Rio Blanco County - White River; Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation & Park District (c/o John R. Pierce, Dufford, Waldeck, Milburn & Krohn, LLP, 744 Horizon Court, Suite 300, Grand Junction, CO 81506, (970) 248-5865) and Town of Meeker (c/o Ed Olszewski, Olszewski, Massih & Maurer, P.C., 1204 Grand Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602, (970) 928-9100; APPLICATION FOR GROUNDWATER RIGHT, SURFACE WATER RIGHT, WATER STORAGE RIGHT, AND REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PLAN FOR AUGMENTATION; Name and contact information for applicants: Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation & Park District, c/o Sean VanRoenn, 101 Ute Road, Meeker, CO 81641, (970) 878-7410; Town of Meeker, c/o Lisa Cook, Town Administrator, 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO 81641, (970) 878-4962; Request for groundwater right: *Name of well:* Circle Park Pond, *Legal description:* SW/4 SW/4 of Section 23, Township 1 North, Range 94 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point approximately 1,100 feet from the west section line and 35 feet from the south section line. (UTM: Easting 251578.11; Northing 4435573.96 (NAD83, UTM ZONE 13)); *Source:* Groundwater tributary to the White River; *Depth:* 16 feet; *Date of appropriation:* April 11, 2018; *How appropriation was initiated:* By conducting site visit, retaining counsel, and meeting with other parties and engineers; *Date water applied to beneficial use:* The Circle Park Pond has not yet been constructed; *Amount:* 0.18 c.f.s., conditional; *Uses:* Irrigation; *Number of irrigated acres:* 2.5 acres of lawn grass, located within Circle Park; Request for surface water right: *Name of structure:* Circle Park Pond Recharge Diversion; *Legal description:* NW/4 of the NW/4 of Section 26, Township 1 North, Range 94 West, of the 6th P.M., at a point 1.26 feet from the west section line and 96 feet from the north section line (UTM: Easting 251612, Northing 4435532 (NAD 83 Zone 13)); *Source:* Surface water and irrigation return flows tributary to the White River; *Date of appropriation:* April 11, 2018; *How appropriation was initiated:* By conducting site visit, retaining counsel, and meeting with other parties and engineers; *Date water applied to beneficial use:* The Circle Park Recharge Diversion has not yet been constructed; *Amount:* 10.6 c.f.s., conditional; *Use:* Recharge, refreshing flows for piscatorial habitat in Circle Park Pond; Request for water storage right: *Name of water right:* Big Beaver Reservoir, Circle Park Pond Enlargement; *Legal description:* The location of the Big Beaver Reservoir was decreed in Case No. 91CW138 to be in the S/2 of Section 7 and N/2 of Section 18, Township 1 South, Range 91 West, 6th P.M.; *Date of appropriation:* April 11, 2018; *How appropriation was initiated:* By conducting site visit to investigate the Circle Park Pond site, retaining counsel, and meeting with other parties and engineers; *Amount:* 8 a.f.; *Source:* Big Beaver Creek, tributary to the White River; *Uses:* Augmentation; Request for approval of plan for augmentation: *Name of structures to be augmented:* Circle Park Pond and Circle Park Irrigation Diversion; *Water right to be used for augmentation:* Big Beaver Reservoir, Circle Park Enlargement; *Does Applicant intend to change any water right to provide a source of augmentation?* No; *Complete statement of plan for augmentation:* The water rights to be augmented by this plan for augmentation are located in an under-appropriated area, so that augmentation isn't required. However, Applicants wish to ensure that the augmented rights remain available in the event of a future call. This plan for augmentation provides for replacement of potential out-of-priority depletions to the White River at Circle Park caused by evaporation from the Circle Park Pond, as well as from irrigation of Circle Park using water pumped from the Circle Park Pond or diverted through the Circle Park Irrigation Diversion. Evaporative losses will be 2.94 a.f., annually, with a maximum of 0.49 a.f. in July. Irrigation use will result in annual depletions of 4.95 a.f., with a maximum irrigation depletion in July of 1.23 a.f. The most likely call period for the White River is during the irrigation season, from April 1 through October 31. Because the Circle Park Pond will be located approximately 75 feet from the White River, the timing of depletions will be delayed. Augmentation water will be provided by an eight acre-foot junior enlargement of the Big Beaver Reservoir, which is owned by the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The Big Beaver Reservoir is located on Big Beaver Creek at its confluence with the White River, approximately 25 miles upstream of Circle Park. If a call is placed on the White River by a senior water user downstream of the Circle Park Pond, water stored in Big Beaver Reservoir under the eight acre-foot right, requested above, will be released in accordance with the water balance and water release schedule. (7 pages)

2019CW3032 Rio Blanco County(08CW206, 98CW269), WATER DIVISION NO. 6, STATE OF COLORADO, Routt County District Court, 1955 Shield Dr., Unit 200, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487. IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR WATER RIGHTS OF EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION, IN RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO. **APPLICATION FOR FINDINGS OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE AND TO MAKE WATER RIGHTS ABSOLUTE.** 1. *Name and Address of Applicant:* Exxon Mobil Corporation (“ExxonMobil”), P.O. Box 4358, CORP-MI-3006, Houston, TX 77210-4358. *Direct All Pleadings to:* Glenn E. Porzak, Kristin H. Moseley, Cassidy L. Woodard, Porzak Browning & Bushong LLP, 2120 13th Street, Boulder, CO 80302. 2. *Names of Structures:* A. *Surface Water Diversions:* i. Exxon Upper Piceance Creek Diversion. ii. Exxon Piceance Creek Diversion. iii. Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion. iv. Exxon Thirteen Mile Creek Diversion. v. Exxon Willow Creek Diversion. vi. Exxon Hunter Creek Diversion. vii. Exxon Upper Fawn Creek Diversion. viii. Exxon Lower Fawn Creek Diversion. ix. Exxon Upper Black Sulphur Creek Diversion. x. Exxon Middle Black Sulphur Creek Diversion. xi. Exxon Black Sulphur – Fawn Creek Diversion. xii. Exxon Black Sulphur – Piceance Creek Diversion. xiii. Exxon Middle Fork Stewart Creek Diversion. xiv. Exxon East Fork Stewart Creek Diversion. xv. Exxon Upper Dry Fork Diversion. xvi. Exxon Lower Dry Fork Diversion. xvii. Exxon Yellow Creek Diversion. xviii. Exxon Duck Creek Diversion. xix. Exxon Corral Creek Diversion. xx. Exxon Ryan Gulch Diversion. B. *Storage Structures:* i. Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir. ii. Exxon Boies/Black Sulphur Reservoir. iii. Exxon B&M Reservoir. iv. Exxon Hunter Creek Reservoir. v. Exxon Willow Creek Reservoir. vi. Exxon Yellow Creek Reservoir. vii. Exxon Dry Creek Reservoir. C. *Exchanges:* i. Exxon Upper Piceance Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. ii. Exxon Thirteen Mile Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. iii. Exxon Willow Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. iv. Exxon Hunter Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. v. Exxon Upper Fawn Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. vi. Exxon Upper Black Sulphur Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. vii. Exxon Middle Fork Stewart Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. viii. Exxon East Fork Middle Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. ix. Exxon Upper Dry Fork Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. x. Exxon Yellow Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. xi. Exxon Duck Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. xii. Exxon Corral Creek Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. xiii. Exxon Ryan Gulch Diversion – White River Pumping Pipeline Exchange. 3. *Description of Conditional Water Rights:* The following described water rights were decreed by the District Court in and for Water Division No. 5, State of Colorado (“Water Court”), in Case No. 98CW259, dated December 30, 2002 (“98CW259 Decree”), and a subsequent finding of reasonable diligence was made in Water Court Case No. 08CW206, dated December 15, 2013 (“08CW206 Decree”): A. The following described conditional surface water rights, as shown on the map attached as **Exhibit A**, are each decreed with an appropriation date of November 17, 1998, for domestic, industrial, mining, commercial, irrigation, and dust suppression uses on property within the Piceance Creek and Yellow Creek Basins in which ExxonMobil or its subsidiaries or affiliates owned an interest as of December 30, 2002, and also all property within the Piceance Creek and Yellow Creek Basins upon which its oil, gas, and energy exploration and recovery operations are performed: i. Exxon Upper Piceance Creek Diversion, 4.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the NW/4 of the NE/4 of Section 1, T. 4 S., R. 95 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,050 feet from the N. section line and 2,250 feet from the E. section line of said Section 1. ii. Exxon Piceance Creek Diversion, 3.18 cfs conditional for industrial, mining, and commercial uses and 4.0 cfs conditional for domestic, irrigation, and dust suppression uses, the source of which is Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. In Case No. 06CW265, decreed on November 16, 2013 (the “06CW265 Decree”), the Water Court decreed a change in the legal description of the Exxon Piceance Creek Diversion as follows: the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 9, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,200 feet from the S. section line and 1,150 feet from the W. section line of said Section 9. a. *Remarks:* In the 08CW206 Decree, 0.82 cfs of the Exxon Piceance Creek Diversion was made absolute for industrial, mining, and commercial uses. iii. Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion, 4.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SW/4 of the NE/4 of Section 15, T. 1 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,500 feet from the N. section line and 2,200 feet from the E. section line of said Section 15. iv. Exxon Thirteen Mile Creek Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Thirteen Mile Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 33, T. 2 S., R. 94 W. of the 6th P.M., 280 feet from the S. section line and 440 feet from the W. section line of said Section 33. v. Exxon Willow Creek Diversion, 2.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Willow Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the NW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 4, T. 4 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,800 feet from the S. section line and 1,900 feet from the E. section line of said Section 4. vi. Exxon Hunter Creek Diversion, 2.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Hunter Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 31, T. 3 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,200 feet from the S. section line and 900 feet from the W. section line of said Section 31. vii. Exxon Upper Fawn Creek Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Fawn Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SW/4 of the NE/4 of Section 22, T. 3 S., R. 98 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,500 feet from the N. section line and 1,550 feet from the E. section line of said Section 22. viii. Exxon Lower Fawn Creek Diversion, 0.78 cfs conditional for industrial, mining, and commercial and 2.0 cfs conditional for domestic, irrigation, and dust suppression, the source of which is Fawn Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 30, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 250 feet from the S. section line and 2,600 feet from the W. section line of said Section 30. a. *Remarks:* In the 08CW206 Decree, 1.22 cfs of the Exxon Lower Fawn Creek Diversion was made absolute for industrial, mining, and commercial. ix. Exxon Upper Black Sulphur Creek Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Black Sulphur Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 5, T. 3 S., R. 98 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,800 feet from the N. section line and 1,600 feet from the W. section line of said Section 5. x. Exxon Middle Black Sulphur Creek Diversion, 2.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Black Sulphur Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the NE/4 of Section 27, T. 2 S., R. 98 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,700 feet from the N. section line and 600 feet from the E. section line of said Section 27. xi. Exxon Black Sulphur – Fawn Creek Diversion, 0.71 cfs conditional for irrigation, mining, and commercial and 2.0 cfs conditional for domestic, irrigation, and dust suppression, the source of which is Black Sulphur Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 20, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,100 feet from the S. section line and 1,250 feet from the W. section line of said Section 20. a. *Remarks:* In the 08CW206 Decree, 1.29 cfs of the Exxon Black Sulphur – Fawn Creek Diversion was made absolute for industrial, mining, and commercial. xii. Exxon Black Sulphur – Piceance Creek Diversion, 2.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Black Sulphur Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the NW/4 of the NW/4 of Section 21, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 100 feet from the N. section line and 900 feet from the W. section line of said Section 21. xiii. Exxon Middle Fork Stewart Creek Diversion, 3.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Stewart Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the NE/4 of Section 4, T. 4 S., R. 96 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,600 feet from the N. section line and 1,100 feet from the E. section line of said Section 4. xiv. Exxon East Fork Stewart Creek Diversion, 3.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Stewart Creek, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 35, T. 3 S., R. 96 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,650 feet from the S. section line and 1,150 feet from the W. section line of said Section 35. v. Exxon Upper Dry Fork Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Dry Fork, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 4, T. 2 S., R. 95 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,300 feet from the S. section line and 1,350 feet from the W. section line of said Section 4. xvi. Exxon Lower Dry Fork Diversion, 3.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Dry Fork, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 31, T. 1 N., R. 96 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,150 feet from the S. section line and 2,300 feet from the W. section line of said Section 31. xvii. Exxon Yellow Creek Diversion, 3.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Yellow Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SW/4 of the NW/4 of Section 11, T. 1 S., R. 98 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,640 feet from the N. section line and 880 feet from the W. section line of said Section 11. xviii. Exxon Duck Creek Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Duck Creek, a tributary of Yellow Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 12, T. 1 S., R. 99 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,920 feet from the N. section line and 1,480 feet from the W. section line of said Section 12. xix. Exxon Corral Creek Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Corral Creek, a tributary of Yellow Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the SE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 35, T. 1 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,600 feet from the N. section line and 2,560 feet from the W. section line of said Section 35. xx. Exxon Ryan Gulch Diversion, 1.0 cfs conditional, the source of which is Ryan Gulch, a tributary of Piceance Creek, a tributary of the White River. The point of diversion is located in the NW/4 of the NE/4 of Section 25, T. 2 S., R. 99 W. of the 6th P.M., 300 feet from the N. section line and 2,400 feet from the E. section line of said Section 25. B. The following described conditional water storage rights, as shown on the map attached as **Exhibit B**, were decreed with an appropriation date of December 14, 1998, for domestic, industrial, mining, commercial, irrigation, and dust suppression uses on property within the Piceance Creek and Yellow Creek Basins in which ExxonMobil or its subsidiaries or affiliates own an interest: i. Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir, 30 acre-feet conditional for domestic and irrigation uses, the source of which is Piceance Creek by means of the German Consolidated Ditch, and, as decreed in the 06CW265 Decree, alternately by means of ExxonMobil Love Ranch Reservoir Pumping Station located at the SW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 9, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,350 feet from the S. section line and 1,260 feet from the W. section line of said Section 9, and by the ExxonMobil Love Ranch Reservoir Pumping Station Alternate Point of Diversion located at the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 9, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,470 feet from the S. section line and 1,230 feet from the W. section line of said Section 9. In Case No. 08CW203, decreed on April 26, 2013 (the “08CW203 Decree”), the Water Court corrected the legal description of the reservoir outlet as follows: the NE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 9, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,450 feet from S. section line and 1,500 feet from the W. section line of said Section 9. a. *Remarks:* Construction of Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir was completed in 2001, and Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir was subsequently filled to capacity on or about April 30, 2002. In the 08CW206 Decree, 30 acre-feet of the Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir was made absolute for industrial, mining, commercial, and dust suppression. ii. Exxon Boies/Black Sulphur Reservoir, 50 acre-feet conditional, the source of which is Black Sulphur Creek by means of the Boies Ditch, and, as decreed in the 06CW265 Decree, alternately by means of the ExxonMobil Boies/Black Sulphur Pumping Station located at the NW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 20, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,000 feet from the S. section line and 2,310 feet from the E. section line of said Section 20. The reservoir outlet is located in the NW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 20, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,550 feet from the S. section line and 1,900 feet from the E. section line of said Section 20. iii. Exxon B&M Reservoir, 50 acre-feet conditional for domestic and irrigation uses, the source of which is Piceance Creek by means of the Belot & Moffat Ditch, and, as decreed in the 06CW265 Decree, alternately by means of the ExxonMobil B&M Reservoir Pumping Station located at the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 26, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,040 feet from the S. section line and 3,560 feet from the E. section line of said Section 26. The 08CW203 Decree corrected the legal description of the reservoir outlet as follows: the SE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 36, T. 2 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 2,250 feet from the N. section line and 2,520 feet from the W. section line of said Section 26. a. *Remarks:* Construction of Exxon B&M Reservoir was completed in 2001, and Exxon B&M Reservoir was subsequently filled to capacity on or about April 30, 2002. In the 08CW206 Decree, 50 acre-feet of the Exxon B&M Reservoir was made absolute for industrial, mining, commercial, and dust suppression. iv. Exxon Hunter Creek Reservoir, 30 acre-feet conditional, the source of which is Hunter Creek by means of the Gilmor Ditch, and, as decreed in the 06CW265 Decree, alternately by means of ExxonMobil Hunter Creek Reservoir Pumping Station located at the NW/4 of the NE/4 of Section 30, T. 3 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,225 feet from the S. section line and 2,500 feet from the E. section line of said Section 30. The reservoir outlet is located in the NW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 30, T. 3 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 1,900 feet from the S. section line and 2,200 feet from the E. section line of said Section 30. v. Exxon Willow Creek Reservoir, 30 acre-feet conditional, the source of which is Willow Creek by means of the Taylor Ditch, and, as decreed in the 06CW265 Decree, alternately by means of ExxonMobil Willow Creek Reservoir Pumping Station located at the NE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 34, T. 3 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 475 feet from the N. section line and 1,440 feet from the W. section line of said Section 34. The reservoir outlet is located in the NE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 34, T. 3 S., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., 100 feet from the N. section line and 1,800 feet from the W. section line of said Section 34. vi. Exxon Yellow Creek Reservoir, 30 acre-feet conditional, the source of which is Yellow Creek by means of the Exxon Yellow Creek Diversion, described in Paragraph 3.A.xvii above. The reservoir outlet is located in the NE/4 of the NW/4 of Section 11, T. 1 S., R. 98 W. of the 6th P.M., 400 feet from the N. section line and 1,400 feet from the W. section line of said Section 11. vii. Exxon Dry Creek Reservoir, 20 acre-feet conditional, the source of which is Dry Fork Creek by means of the Exxon Upper Dry Fork Diversion, described in Paragraph 3.A.xv above. The reservoir outlet is located in the SW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 4, T. 2 S., R. 95 W. of the 6th P.M., 600 feet from the S. section line and 100 feet from the W. section line of said Section 4. C. *Conditional Rights of Exchange:* In the 98CW259 Decree, the Water Court decreed a plan for augmentation involving several exchanges, with an appropriation date of November 17, 1998, for all exchanges, as more particularly described in Paragraph 8 of the 98CW259 Decree. The downstream terminus of all of the exchanges is the White River Pumping Pipeline, located at a point on the left bank of the White River whence corner No. 3 of Tract 40, Section 2, T. 1 N., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M. bears South 10°42’ West a distance of 1,507.2 feet and whence the South Quarter Corner of Section 2, T. 1 N., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M. bears 01°51’ West a distance of 37,459.5 feet, which can also be described as being located in the NW/4 of the NE/4 of Section 2, T. 1 N., R. 97 W. of the 6th P.M., at a point 570 feet from the North section line and 2,600 feet from the East section line of said Section 2. The upstream termini of the exchanges are as follows:

Exchange Creek	Diversion Name	Legal Description (see paragraph)	Exchange Rate
Piceance Creek	Exxon Upper Piceance Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.i	4 cfs
Thirteen Mile Creek	Exxon Thirteen Mile Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.iv	1 cfs
Willow Creek	Exxon Willow Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.v	2 cfs
Hunter Creek	Exxon Hunter Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.vi	2 cfs
Fawn Creek	Exxon Upper Fawn Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.vii	2 cfs
Black Sulphur Creek	Exxon Upper Black Sulphur Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.ix	1 cfs
Middle Fork Stewart Creek	Exxon Middle Fork Stewart Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.xiii	3 cfs
East Fork Stewart Creek	Exxon East Fork Stewart Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.xiv	3 cfs
Dry Fork	Exxon Upper Dry Fork Diversion	¶ 3.A.xv	1 cfs
Yellow Creek	Exxon Yellow Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.xvii	3 cfs
Duck Creek	Exxon Duck Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.xviii	1 cfs
Corral Creek	Exxon Corral Creek Diversion	¶ 3.A.xix	1 cfs
Ryan Gulch	Exxon Ryan Gulch Diversion	¶ 3.A.xx	1 cfs

4. *Water Rights Made Absolute:* ExxonMobil seeks a finding that the following water rights and amounts have been made absolute: A. Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir: In Case No. 08CW206, 30 acre-feet of the Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir was made absolute for industrial, mining, commercial, and dust suppression. Pursuant to subsequently enacted legislation codified at C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(e), “[a] decreed conditional water storage right shall be made absolute for all decreed purposes to the extent of the volume of the appropriation that has been captured, possessed, and controlled at the decreed storage structure.” By virtue of that statute, and by virtue of the evidence presented that Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir has been filled to its full as-built capacity and water has been placed to beneficial use, ExxonMobil seeks to make Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir absolute for 30 acre-feet for domestic and irrigation purposes. B. Exxon B&M Reservoir: In Case No. 08CW206, 50 acre-feet of the Exxon B&M Reservoir was made absolute for industrial, mining, commercial, and dust suppression. Also pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(e), and by virtue of the evidence presented that Exxon B&M Reservoir has been filled to its full as-built capacity and water has been placed to beneficial use, ExxonMobil seeks to make Exxon B&M Reservoir absolute for 50 acre-feet for domestic and irrigation purposes. C. Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion: Pursuant to ExxonMobil’s diversion records for 2019, a maximum rate of 0.34 cfs of the Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion was diverted between October 22, 2019, and November 11, 2019, and placed to beneficial use. ExxonMobil hereby requests to make 0.34 cfs absolute of the Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion for domestic, industrial, mining, commercial, irrigation, and dust suppression uses. Diversion records for the Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion are attached hereto as **Exhibit C**. D. Exxon Black Sulphur – Piceance Creek Diversion: Also pursuant to ExxonMobil’s diversion records for 2019, a maximum rate of 0.267 cfs of the Exxon Black Sulphur – Piceance Creek Diversion was diverted between July 8, 2019, and August 31, 2019, and placed to beneficial use. ExxonMobil hereby requests to make 0.267 cfs absolute of the Exxon Black Sulphur – Piceance Creek Diversion for domestic, industrial, mining, commercial, irrigation, and dust suppression uses. Diversion records for the Exxon Black Sulphur – Piceance Creek Diversion are attached hereto as **Exhibit D**. 5. *Request for Findings of Reasonable Diligence:* For all water rights not made absolute as sought in Paragraph 4 above, ExxonMobil requests a finding of reasonable diligence for all remaining conditional amounts and uses. 6. *Activity in Support of Findings of Reasonable Diligence:* ExxonMobil owns and leases in excess of 200,000 acres of land and owns water rights in the Piceance Creek, Yellow Creek, and White River basins in Rio Blanco County, which are used for energy resource development (the “White River Project”). Within the White River Project, ExxonMobil operates four different oil and gas producing units on federal property, including: (1) the Piceance Creek Unit (“PCU”); (2) the Freedom Unit (“FRU”); (3) the Revised North Piceance Unit (“RNPU”); and (4) the Yellow Creek Unit (“YCU”). Additionally, ExxonMobil is the owner and operator of the Colony Shale Oil Project, located near the Town of Parachute in Garfield County, which is designed to produce various energy resources including oil shale operations (the “Colony Project”). ExxonMobil also owns numerous other properties and water rights in the Colorado River Basin in Garfield County, portions of which were originally owned by Mobil Oil Corporation prior to the corporate merger with Exxon Corporation in 1999 and that have continued to be used for energy resource development (the “Colorado River Project”). In 2009, ExxonMobil acquired XTO Energy, Inc. (“XTO”) as a wholly-owned subsidiary. XTO also owned acreage and water rights in the Piceance Creek Basin prior to the merger, which ExxonMobil now operates as part of the White River Project. ExxonMobil has engaged in the following specific activities that demonstrate its diligence and that are necessary prerequisites to applying the subject water rights to their decreed uses in connection with its energy resource development operations in Rio Blanco and Garfield Counties and in connection therewith, has expended in excess of \$10,000,000: A. ExxonMobil has continued to develop and operate its natural gas operations for the White River Project in the Piceance Creek/White River basin. During the subject diligence period, ExxonMobil operated 283 wells and had a working interest in an additional 222 wells from lands it owns or controls in the Piceance Creek/White River basins. Even though commodity prices remain low, ExxonMobil is in the process of permitting additional horizontal wells through the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (“COGCC”) and the United States Bureau of Reclamation (“BLM”) for drilling in 2020 and 2021. B. ExxonMobil has maintained its energy resource properties, leases, and water rights to develop the Colony Project, Colorado River Project, and White River Project during the past six years. This effort included site maintenance, air monitoring, reclamation, and miscellaneous projects. ExxonMobil has also maintained its permits with the Mined Land Reclamation Board, with the Colorado Department of Health (water discharge), and with the Environmental Protection Agency (air quality) during this period. In addition, ExxonMobil has made substantial and ongoing efforts to fully integrate its water rights portfolio between the Colorado River and White River Basins, including through transbasin pipelines to augment and import water. C. ExxonMobil entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on November 15, 2019, with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to analyze ExxonMobil’s request to amend its 6,000 acre-foot Ruedi Reservoir Contract Water to allow for its use within the Piceance Creek Basin for ExxonMobil’s natural gas and oil shale operations. D. In 2017, ExxonMobil acquired Bass Energy Holdings’ BOPCO field in the YCU, which included an additional 7,495 acres, twenty-two active wells, and a gas processing plant. ExxonMobil is exploring undertaking an

expansion of the gas processing plant, which will require obtaining permits from the BLM and the COGCC. E. ExxonMobil expended almost \$1 million to construct new water-related infrastructure in connection with the White River Project, including installation of a pipeline to transport water from the Exxon Lower Piceance Creek Diversion to a newly-constructed oil and gas well approximately one mile away in Section 23 of Township 1 South, Range 97 West. This pipeline allows ExxonMobil to (1) minimize expenses to transport water via truck; (2) reduce vehicle traffic of water trucks on County Roads 5, 3, and 76 in the interest of public safety; and (3) provide for the expansion of future drilling and completions operations by allowing for water to be moved between those two locations. Construction and utilization of the pipeline alleviated forty-two miles of trucking water per load for an estimated reduction of 38,810 equivalent miles of transportation. F. ExxonMobil retained Porzak Browning & Bushong LLP as legal counsel and Wright Water Engineers, Inc. and Resource Engineering, Inc. for engineering services in support of numerous water rights applications, defending ExxonMobil's water rights by filing statements of opposition in cases of concern, and negotiating with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to amend its 6,000 acre-foot Ruedi Reservoir Contract. G. ExxonMobil has filed and adjudicated the following applications in connection with the White River Project: i. Case No. 06CW265, decreed on November 16, 2013, in Division 5 to change diversion points originally decreed and augmented in Case No. 98CW259 in order to be utilized in two separate alluvial well fields. The first well field is the ExxonMobil B&M Well Field. The second well field is the ExxonMobil Boies Well Field. Case No. 06CW265 also seeks to adjudicate alternate diversion points to fill the reservoirs decreed in Case No. 98CW259. All of these changes are important to the development of the domestic water supply for the White River Project; ii. Case No. 08CW199, decreed on June 5, 2016, in Division 5 in order to change the place of use of senior Colony Project water rights (Dow Pumping Plant and Pipeline, Dow Middle Fork Pipeline, Dow East Middle Fork Pipeline) that divert in the Colorado River basin for use in the Piceance Creek and Yellow Creek basins, and to augment such diversions by releases from Ruedi Reservoir and previously decreed Parachute Creek Reservoirs (Middle Fork Reservoir, Davis Gulch Reservoir, Ruedi Reservoir, East Middle Fork Reservoir, and Lower East Middle Fork Reservoir); iii. Case No. 05CW285, decreed on June 18, 2017, in Division 5 in order to utilize the augmentation credits decreed in Case No. 98CW259 to augment the Hunter Creek Wells and Boies Reservoir in the Piceance Creek basin. The decree in Case No. 98CW259 is ExxonMobil's base augmentation plan in the Piceance Creek basin; iv. Case No. 05CW294, decreed on December 17, 2017, in Division 5 to quantify the historical consumptive use associated with a variety of senior irrigation rights in the Piceance Creek basin and to augment the various diversion points and reservoirs decreed in Case No. 98CW259; and v. Case No. 18CW3005, decreed on May 26, 2019, in Division 6 to make a portion of the water rights absolute and obtain a finding of reasonable diligence for the remaining conditional water rights associated with the ExxonMobil Lower Piceance Creek Pumping Station and its two points of diversion. H. ExxonMobil has filed the following pending applications: i. On March 14, 2013, XTO acquired, via a land swap with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, the Square S Ranch and its associated water rights, including some of the most senior water rights on Piceance Creek. ExxonMobil filed Case No. 19CW3003 in Division 6 to quantify historical consumptive use credits for the Square S Ranch water rights and incorporate those credits into ExxonMobil's existing plans for augmentation in Case Nos. 98CW259 and 05CW294. ii. ExxonMobil filed Case No. 19CW3008 in Division 6 to request a finding of reasonable diligence for the Exxon Love Ranch Reservoir Refill Right and the Exxon B&M Reservoir First Enlargement Right and Refill Right. iii. ExxonMobil filed Case No. 19CW3066 in Division 5 to decree alternate places of storage for the Parachute Reservoir water rights (Middle Fork Reservoir, Davis Gulch Reservoir, East Middle Fork Reservoir, and Lower East Middle Fork Reservoir) to maximize operational flexibility and better implement the transbasin water rights decreed in Case No. 08CW199. It also requests an alternate place of storage for the Allenwater Creek Terminal Reservoir at a downstream location to allow for its use for irrigation. I. ExxonMobil has monitored the water rights applications of other water users in Water Division Nos. 5 and 6 and has filed statements of opposition in cases that jeopardize ExxonMobil's water rights. 7. **Ownership:** A. ExxonMobil and its wholly-owned subsidiary, XTO Energy, Inc. B. Elaine Louise Bossart Hutchings, 1975 South Cook St., Denver, CO, 80210. C. Ursa Piceance, LLC, 1600 Broadway Suite 2600, Denver, CO, 80202. D. James W. Brennan, 299 County Road 26, Rifle, CO 81650. E. Bureau of Land Management, White River Field Office, 220 Market St., Meeker, CO 81641. F. Puckett Land Company, 5460 South Quebec St, Suite 250, Greenwood Village, CO, 80111. G. Colorado Division of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216. H. Mahogany Energy Resources, LLC, 350 Park Ave. 4th Floor, New York, NY, 10022. I. Shults Ranch LLLP, P.O. Box 987, Meeker, CO, 81641. J. Oil Shale Corporation, Attn: ConocoPhillips Company Real Estate Services, P.O. Box 2197, Houston, TX 77252-2197. K. Caerus Piceance LLC, 1001 17th Street, Suite 1600, Denver, CO 80202. WHEREFORE, ExxonMobil requests a decree of the Court ruling that: (1) the water rights described in Paragraph 4 above have been made absolute; (2) ExxonMobil is entitled to a finding of reasonable diligence for the remaining conditional water rights described in Paragraph 5 above; and (3) grants such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper. (31 pages total with exhibits)

2019CW3035 RIO BLANCO COUNTY – NIBLOCK DITCH AND STRAWBERRY CREEK, TRIBUTARY TO THE WHITE RIVER. Harvey and Seaton Cattle Co., LLC c/o Kevin L. Patrick, Esq. and Jason M. Groves, Esq., Patrick, Miller & Noto, P.C., 229 Midland Ave., Basalt, CO 81621 (970) 920-1030. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PLAN FOR AUGMENTATION INCLUDING CHANGE OF WATER RIGHTS. **First Claim: Approval of Plan for Augmentation.** Name Of structures to be augmented: Strawberry Pond and Niblock Ditch, Strawberry Enlargement. Legal Description: Strawberry Pond: SE1/4 of Section 18, Township 1, North Range 94W of the 6th P.M. (UTM X = 245740.00 m E, UTM Y = 4438073.00 m N). Niblock Ditch, Strawberry Enlargement point of diversion: NE¼ of the SE¼ Section 28, Township 1 North, Range 94 West, of the 6th P.M. at a point whence the Southwest corner of Section 22, T1N, R94W bears North 22degrees East, 3,864feet. Water rights used for augmentation: Applicant owns 9.125 shares of the Niblock Ditch Company decreed to divert at the Niblock Ditch headgate. The Niblock Ditch Company owns the following water rights: Priority 17 for 2.4 cfs; Priority 66 for 5.4 cfs; Priority 108A for 2.6 cfs; Priority 108A for 22.2 cfs; Priority 351 for 29.28 cfs; Priority 693 for 0.60 cfs; Priority 712 for 1.35 cfs; Priority 729 for 5.15 cfs; 14.02 cfs from Case No. W-3661; and 16.0 cfs from Case Nos. W-3661 and 96CW0222. Type: Surface irrigation right. Source: White River and its tributaries including Strawberry Creek. Amount involved in this application: 0.16 cfs from the Applicant's undivided 23% interest in each priority described above and in more detail in the Application on file with the Court, representing the amount historically used to irrigate 8.0 acres to be dried up under this plan for augmentation. Current use: Irrigation. Complete statement of plan for augmentation: Applicant is the owner of the Strawberry Creek Ranch located west of Meeker, Colorado. The ranch is operated as a cattle ranch and wildlife retreat. Applicant will be constructing the Strawberry Pond which will be filled and refilled, and receive freshening flows from the White River via a lateral of the Niblock Ditch located on Applicant's property. Applicant files this plan to augment out-of-priority depletions resulting from evaporation use when the water rights described in paragraph 3 would otherwise be curtailed. The Strawberry Pond, and its associated recycling system, has an open water surface area of approximately 3.3 acres. By this plan for augmentation, Applicant will fill and replace the depletions from the open water surfaces with consumptive use credits by virtue of the removal of 8 acres of land historically irrigated by Applicant's Niblock Ditch water rights involved in this application. Evaporative depletions total 11.0 acre feet using a per acre evaporation rate of 3.333 acre-feet/acre as calculated using the SEO method outlined in the General Guidelines for Substitute Water Supply Plans for Sand and Gravel Pits and SEO Policy No. 2004-3. The annual gross free water surface evaporation is 40 inches based on NOAA Technical Report NWS 33. The evaporative depletions from the 3.3 acres of open water surface areas are set forth in Table 1, below:

(1) Month	(2) SEO Distribution (%)	(3) Gross Lake Evaporation (ft)	(4) Days of Ice (days)	(5) Net Lake Evaporation (feet)	(6) Strawberry Pond Evaporation (ac-ft)
January	3.0%	0.10	31	0.00	0.00
February	3.5%	0.12	28	0.00	0.00
March	5.5%	0.18	0	0.18	0.61
April	9.0%	0.30	0	0.30	0.99
May	12.0%	0.40	0	0.40	1.32
June	14.5%	0.48	0	0.48	1.60
July	15.0%	0.50	0	0.50	1.65
August	13.5%	0.45	0	0.45	1.49
September	10.0%	0.33	0	0.33	1.10
October	7.0%	0.23	0	0.23	0.77
November	4.0%	0.13	18	0.05	0.18
December	3.0%	0.10	31	0.00	0.00
Annual	100.0%	3.33	--	2.94	9.69

All water stored by free river runoff would otherwise be tributary to the White River or its tributaries. Out-of-priority depletions are shown on Table 2, on file with the Court. These out-of-priority depletions come from: (1) the depletions due to evaporation when the Niblock Ditch is diverting. A monthly balance of depletions and replacement water source is also shown in Table 2, on file with the Court. Dry-up credits are sufficient to replace all evaporation depletions during the irrigation season, except in April. A maximum of 2.33 acre-feet of storage releases are required to fully augment all open water surface areas. If necessary, storage water can be released to replace return flow obligations from the change in use. Any excess consumptive use credits will be stored in the Strawberry Pond. Applicant will install appropriate measuring devices as requested by the Division Engineer and will develop an accounting plan acceptable to the Division Engineer. **Second Claim: Change of Water Right.** Name of structure: Niblock Ditch as described in First Claim. Amount: 0.16 cfs, as described in First Claim. Description of change: Applicant intends to change the water right from irrigation use to irrigation and augmentation use. Applicant intends to use the 0.16 cfs to augment the evaporative losses from the Strawberry Pond and its recycling system in the plan for augmentation described in the First Claim, livestock depletions, and to replace return flow obligations. The new place of use is the Strawberry Pond described above. 8.0 acres, out of the 370 acres historically irrigated by Applicant from its Niblock Ditch water rights on Applicant's property will be removed from irrigation. Dry up areas may be rotated. Map of water right locations, place of use, and dry up areas is on file with the Court as Exhibit A. Diversion records are on file with the Court as Exhibit B. Water rights are components of an integrated water supply plan encompassing the water rights claimed in this application and the application filed in Case No. 19CW3036. Owners of land where water rights are located and where water rights are or will be put to beneficial use: Applicant; Owners of land upon which the Niblock Ditch headgate is located: Albert R. and Mary K. Krueger, 40000 Hwy 13, Meeker, CO 81641; and Niblock Ditch Company, c/o Ila Sturgeon, 1858 C.R. 32, Meeker, CO 81641.

2019CW3036 RIO BLANCO COUNTY – NIBLOCK DITCH AND THE WHITE RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES. Harvey and Seaton Cattle Co., LLC c/o Kevin L. Patrick, Esq. and Jason M. Groves, Esq., Patrick, Miller & Noto, P.C., 229 Midland Ave., Basalt, CO 81621 (970) 920-1030. APPLICATION FOR SURFACE WATER RIGHT AND STORAGE WATER RIGHT. **First Claim:** Strawberry Pond. Legal Description: SE1/4 of Section 18, Township 1, North Range 94W of the 6th P.M. (UTM X = 245740.00 m E, UTM Y = 4438073.00 m N). Source: Run-off, precipitation, and deliveries from the Niblock Ditch Strawberry Enlargement water right applied for in the Second Claim of this application, all of which are tributary to the White River. Date of appropriation: June 27, 2019 by forming intent to appropriate, monumentation, and field location. Amount: 30 acre feet, with the right to fill and refill when water is physically and legally available, all conditional. Fill rate: 3.0 c.f.s. Uses: Piscatorial, wildlife, recreation, fire protection, and aquatic habitat. Surface area: 3.3 acres. Max dam height: 10 ft. Dam length: Approximately 1200 feet. Total capacity: 20 acre-feet (active). **Second Claim:** Niblock Ditch, Strawberry Enlargement. Legal Description of point of diversion: NE¼ of the SE¼ Section 28, Township 1 North, Range 94 West, of the 6th P.M. at a point whence the Southwest corner of Section 22, T1N, R94W bears North 22 degrees East, 3,864 feet. Source: White River. Date of appropriation: August 7, 2019 by forming intent to appropriate, monumentation, and field location. Amount: 3.0 cfs, conditional. Uses: To fill and refill the storage structures for the subsequent use of piscatorial, recreational, wildlife, and fire protection uses and for the provision of freshening flows for aquatic habitat. Map of water rights is on file with the Court as Exhibit A. Water rights are components of an integrated water supply plan encompassing the water rights claimed in this application and the application filed in Case No. 19CW3035. Owners of land where water rights are located and where water rights are or will be put to beneficial use: Applicant; Owner of land upon which the Niblock Ditch headgate is located: Albert R. and Mary K. Krueger, 40000 Hwy 13, Meeker, CO 81641; and Niblock Ditch Company, c/o Ila Sturgeon, 1858 C.R. 32, Meeker, CO 81641.

The water right claimed by this application may affect in priority any water right claimed or heretofore adjudicated within this division and owners of affected rights must appear to object and protest within the time provided by statute, or be forever barred.

You are hereby notified that you will have until the last day of **February 2020** to file with the Water Court a Verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain Application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must be served on the Applicant or the Applicant's Attorney, with an affidavit or certificate of such service being filed with the Water Court, as prescribed by Rule 5, C.R.C.P. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00, and should be sent to the Clerk of the Water Court, Division 6, 1955 Shield Dr. Unit 200, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487.

MARY ANN NINGER
CLERK OF COURT
ROUTT COUNTY COMBINED COURT
WATER DIVISION 6
/s/ Julie A. Edwards
Deputy Court Clerk

Published January 16, 2020 in the Rio Blanco Herald Times

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Rangely Victim Services: An open door for the protection and care of abused and battered persons. Non-emergency call 629-9691. Emergencies call 911. Providing assistance for victims of violent crimes.

Alcoholics Anonymous
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St. James Church - enter from back parking lot, meetings are downstairs in Richards Hall, 4th & Park, Meeker 878-4158 • 878-5919 • 878-5636
Alanon Thurs. 7 p.m. 878-5655

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AA & Al-Anon Meetings - Rangely Alcoholics Anonymous - Open meetings Tues & Thurs, 7 p.m., 115 Kennedy Dr., St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Rangely.

Al-Anon meets Monday, 8:15 p.m., 207 S. Sunset, 1st Baptist Church, Rangely. Al-Anon info call 970-629-5064 or 970-629-2970. Women's NA/AA meetings, Monday 1:30 p.m., St. Timothy's.

RBC | Attention Rio Blanco County Veterans: Veterans may be eligible for mileage reimbursement for travel costs to receive VA medical care. If you do not currently receive VA travel compensation please contact the Rio Blanco County Veterans Service offices. Rangely: John 'Hood' Gibson, 970-878-9695. Meeker: Joe Bob Dungan, 970-878-9690. Travel compensation is made possible through the Veterans Trust Fund Grant and VFW Post 5843.

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RIO BLANCO Masonic Lodge #80 meets 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7:00 p.m., at 7th and Park, Meeker.

SAFEHOUSE

If you are being abused physically or mentally, you can call SAFEHOUSE for confidential shelter and help. 878-3131

The Rangely Moms Group gives pregnant women and mothers of newborns through elementary school-aged children time to take a break, join in discussions and crafts, and build relationships with other moms. We meet the first Thursday of each month from September through May, from 9-11 a.m. at First Baptist Church (207 S Sunset). Join us! For more information, call Britt Campos at 801-589-4803.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Veterans Service Offices Rio Blanco County: Veterans Service Officer - Joe Dungan, Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., County Administration Building, 200 Main Street Suite 300, Meeker. 878-9690 office, 878-3219 home. Fax 878-9581. Rangely: Veterans Service Officer - Hoot Gibson, Tuesday and Thursday, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., County Annex, 17497 State Hwy 64, Rangely. 878-9695 office, 675-2669 home.

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Wednesday, November 25, 2020
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Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall
For more information,
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970-260-6820

New Eden Pregnancy Care Services - pregnancy tests, emergency supplies, guidance by trained volunteers, classes on pregnancy and child care, post-abortion support, referrals. Meeker: Thursdays, Noon to 5 p.m., 345 Main Street, Meeker. Email: newedenpcs@gmail.com or (970)878-5117
Rangely: Mondays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., 219 Sunset Avenue Rangely. Email: newedenrangely@gmail.com or (970) 675-2300. All services are confidential.

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STORAGE DEPOT 10x25 unit. 878-4808.

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AVAILABLE NOW: Beautiful retail space downtown at 6th and Main in the historic Hugus Building. Call 970-878-4138 for details.

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Rangely Duplex for Rent 1 or 2 bedroom duplex -Newly remodeled & landscaped. Please contact Rodney 970-462-6538 or Dan 970-462-6858.

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Visit our Website at:
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Pioneers Medical Center
Phone: 970-878-5047 Fax: 970-878-3485
100 Pioneers Medical Center Dr., Meeker, CO 81641
Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District

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- Citizens Review Panel
- Columbine Park Board
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- Fair Board
- Fairgrounds Board
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- Lodging Tax Board (Min. requirements)
- Lower White River Pest Control District
- Meeker CO Civic Improvement Corp
- Planning Commission
- Rangely Regional Library District
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- *210 CR 75 - Pappoose Creek Cabin in Forest Service lease land, log cabin, outhouse. **\$30,000 SOLD!**
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- *2101 Meath Dr. - 35 acres in Little Beaver Estates 8 miles east of Meeker. Good pasture. Great views. **\$89,900.**
- *1751 Bright Water Lane - 39 Acres with White River, irrigated hay meadow, and great home sites. 5,000 sq ft barn with power, septic & cistern. Borders BLM. 14 miles west off of Hwy 64. Great hunting area. **\$375,000.**
- *2 Large Multi-family Lots in Sanderson Hills, near Pec Center. Zoned MFR-A. **\$140,000** for both, or sold separately.
- *5807 CR 7 - Vacant 20 acre parcel, 9 mi. North, on Strawberry Creek. Good home site & views! **\$75,000.**

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1417 Silver Sage Road - 2 nice lots with views. **\$45,000.**

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1104 Mark Cir. NEW 1057 Sage Ct. 1134 Michael Cir.

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1134 Michael Cir - 3BD/2.5BA, Updates.....\$275,000	440 Garfield St.....SOLD
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1042 Park Ave - 3BD/1BA 2,340 SF.....\$204,000	Great Horse Property
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1057 Sage Ct - 3BD/2BA 1,620 SF w/2 Lots,179,900	258 E. Main St. - Commercial/Res.....\$240,000
9 E. Main St - 2BD/1BA 2,208 SF, LG Yard, \$179,000	315 & 317 N Grand Ave. - Duplex.....\$140,000
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2204 Rd. 7-618 Acres, 2 Homes, Shop, Grazing Permit.....\$1,980,000	43523 Hwy. 13-4.18 Acres, Commercial Opportunity.....\$387,000	643 4th St. - 2BD/2BA, Beautiful Lot, Convenient Location.....\$199,000
1168 Rd. 63-506± Acres, Custom Log Home & Shop.....\$1,170,000	363 N Cross L Dr.-3BD/2BA, Valley Views, opt. adjoining lot.....\$373,000	970 9th St. - 4BD/2BA, Spacious Log Home with Character.....\$189,500
Elk Mountain Inn-21 rooms, Bar, Restaurant, Courtyard.....\$975,000	29± Acres up Rd. 8-Valley Views, Building Area, Fishing.....\$349,000	1060 Park St.....SALE PENDING
223 8th St.-2+BD/2BA, Yard, Adjoining Retail Space.....\$790,000	45304 Hwy. 13-No HOA Pets Welcome! 3+BD/2.5BA, Shop.....\$345,000	109 Market St. - 1/2 Acre, Corner Lot, Highly Visible.....\$175,000
658± Acres, Rd. 143-North of RB Lake, Hunt Unit 11.....\$660,000	TBD N. 6th St.-8.45± Acres, Livestock Welcome.....\$299,000	1299 Rd. 10 - 4.52 Acres, Ideal Basecamp for Units 23/24.....\$175,000
319± Acres, Rd. 77-Colorow Cabin, Well, Grazing Permit.....\$640,000	946 9th St.-Private & Move-In Ready, 3+BD/2BA.....\$299,000	1105 & 1107 Market St. - Corner Lot, Commercial Opportunity.....\$149,000
431 E. Market St.-22± Acres, Shop, Office, Living Quarters.....\$549,000	950 Cleveland St.-3BD/3BA, large workshop.....\$285,000	338 Love Ln. - 4± Acres, Residence, Livestock Welcome.....\$93,000
1100 Flag Creek Dr.-Lot 24, New Construction.....Under \$534,000	841 3rd St.-4BD/2BA, Large Lot, Attached Garage.....\$279,000	2 Sage Hills Lots - Panoramas, Build Your Dream Home.....\$59,000
1001 Flag Creek Dr.-Lot 21, New Construction.....Under \$425,000	7.46 Acres, E. Market St.-Highway Frontage, Great Traffic.....\$249,000	Ridge Estates - 22 rural residential lots.....From \$45,000 to \$160,000
915 Market St. - Carwash, Residence, Income Opportunity.....\$405,000	212 Garfield St.....SALE PENDING	

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