

Herald Times



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Week 1

Meeker: Stella McGruder
@Watts

Rangely: Brenda Ahrens
@Giovanni's



Capital improvement projects and river study top Rangely council discussion

By JEN HILL
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RANGELY The Rangely Town Council gathered Tuesday for a 2018 budget work session followed by a quick meeting filled with department updates and approval of election resolutions.

The council reviewed capital projects by department as well as non-typical budget items. Capital projects for the water department include a raw water tank rehab budgeted at \$7,000, water line replacement budgeted for \$90,000 with a DOLA grant of \$45,000 and wastewater facility/collections repairs budgeted for \$300,000 with a DOLA grant of \$150,000. The utilities department has budgeted \$150,000 for street sealing and paving with \$113,750 in DOLA grants, and

curb, gutter and sidewalk work budgeted for \$77,700. The gas department has budgeted \$8,000 for meter replacement and \$82,000 for main gas line replacement with \$41,000 of DOLA grant funds.

Much of the water and gas line and paving work will take place on Tanglewood Drive where the town says major utilities repairs are needed.

Additionally, the town has budgeted \$26,000 with an expected \$13,000 in CCITF grant funds for remodeling work at White River Village including new carpeting and an improved laundry facility.

In total the town has budgeted \$765,700 which will be offset by \$387,750 in grants for 2018 capital and improvement projects.

The town is expecting a decline in projected revenues of 4.4 percent and

an expected expenditure decline of 17.9 percent. Other budget items discussed include a doubling of funds to the Rangely Area Chamber of Commerce from \$20,000 to \$40,000, Better City costs of \$52,000, and asbestos team development with two remediation jobs budgeted at \$50,000. The final budget will be approved on Dec. 12.

The council authorized the spring municipal election to take place via mail ballots which will be counted on April 3. They also approved Town Clerk Lisa Piering as election official.

The council was addressed by Kenneth Lieb with the U.S. Geological Survey Colorado Water Science Center about the White River algae bloom. The council is currently considering funding a study in cooperation with the county and Town of

Meeker. Lieb said his office primarily gauges water flow and quality and regularly work with municipalities and other federal agencies. According to Lieb the USGS is not allowed to spend any of their federal funding without also receiving matching funds from another taxing entity. He also emphasized that their agency is non-regulatory, however, their data is entered into a federal database. "We try not to insert ourselves unless our presence is requested," he said.

Councilwoman Ann Brady wanted to know why Rangely should participate in funding the study if all the testing sites will be located above Meeker. Lieb said they could discuss tailoring some aspects of the study to Rangely's needs.

► See RANGELY, Page 3A

Investigation ongoing in shooting of Meeker buck

By NIKI TURNER
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MEEKER A well-recognized mature mule deer buck was shot with an arrow Friday, Nov. 24, resulting in the animal's death on Saturday.

Meeker Chief of Police Phil Stubblefield and Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Deputy Davon Smith responded to the 900 block of Hill Street about a buck with an arrow sticking out of its shoulder at approximately 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25. The buck was found to be in "poor condition" according to Stubblefield. After consulting with Colorado Parks and Wildlife Officer Jonathan Lambert who was on his way to the scene from Craig, the buck had to be put down.

Upon Lambert's arrival, the officers followed a blood trail from the scene to the back of an apartment complex on 12th Street. Officers believe the arrow was shot from one of the balconies in the apartment building.

"The assisting deputy (Smith) made contact with a party who was carrying a bow to his vehicle," Lambert said. Upon questioning, the individual said the bow did not belong to him, and that an acquaintance of his had hosted friends in the apartment complex the previous evening.

"We can't release any names right now," Lambert said. "We have identified a subject, but the investigation is still open as there may be others involved."

The Rio Blanco County District Attorney's office has been notified, and Lambert said there will be multiple charges in the case, although the specifics have yet to be determined.



COURTESY PHOTO
This mature buck with near-trophy class antlers was shot with an arrow last Friday night within Meeker town limits. It had to be put down by law enforcement officers Saturday morning. Colorado Parks and Wildlife is investigating and expects to have more information on charges to be filed in the case late next week.

Reintroduction of wolves to Colorado is the topic of Dec. 7 Sierra Club meeting in Steamboat

By NIKI TURNER
niki@theheraldtimes.com

RBC Gray wolves were eradicated from Colorado by the 1940s to protect domestic livestock, but groups like the Sierra Club are working to change public perception of wolves in hopes of reintroducing the animals to their former habitat. United States Fish and Wildlife Service has restored wolf populations to Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico and Arizona. Colorado is the last holdout. A few wolves have migrated into Colorado's North and Middle Park, but the animals haven't been officially reintroduced, largely due to continued opposition from livestock producers and hunting organizations.

At last spring's Rio Blanco County Woolgrowers meeting, Justin Ewing, a trapper for the United States Department of Agriculture's Wildlife

Services office said, "It's just a matter of time before we have an established wolf population here. The days of 'no-wolves' tunnel vision are over. They're going to come, one way or another."

If wolves are intentionally introduced, as they have been in other states, they can be managed if they cause trouble for livestock or humans, but if wolves migrate into Colorado, they are considered an endangered species and come under federal protection laws. Killing a wolf or any endangered species can result in criminal charges, a year in prison and fines up to \$100,000 per offense, depending on circumstances and the discretion of federal authorities.

Reintroducing wolves in areas where ranching is prevalent doesn't always end well for the wolves. The Wyoming Wolf Recovery 2016 annual report listed 243 confirmed wolf-

kills of livestock, including 154 cattle, 88 sheep and one horse. In addition, 24 cattle, two sheep and one horse were injured by wolves but survived. As a result, wildlife managers killed 113 wolves that were confirmed to be attacking livestock. The state of Wyoming paid cattle and sheep producers \$315,062 in compensation for livestock losses.

Pro-wolf activists believe western Colorado is the ideal habitat for wolves, due to the large populations of deer and elk. In Ewing's opinion, the activists are interested in "natural control" of deer and elk rather than allowing human hunters to manage herd numbers, and said human safety when it comes to wolves "isn't on the radar."

In 2016, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission formally opposed the release of wolves in the state 7-4.

The Trappers Lake Sierra Club

group, which serves Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco and Routt counties, is hosting an informational meeting about the benefits of reintroducing wolves to Colorado on Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. in the Bud Werner Memorial Library in Steamboat Springs, Colo. The meeting will include two short films, "Meet the Real Wolf" and "Canis Lupus Colorado," followed by a discussion titled "Wolves in Colorado: Restoring the Balance," led by Delia Malone, Sierra Club wildlife chair.

The films were produced by the Rocky Mountain Wolf Project, which states its mission as "to improve public understanding of gray wolf behavior, ecology and options for re-establishing the species in Colorado. The benchmark of our success: Wolves again roaming the snow-capped peaks, rim rock canyons and primeval forests of western Colorado."



DOC WATSON PHOTO

In addition to all the other volunteer work they do for the residents at the Walbridge Wing, Johnny and Virginia Barton have had a regular Thursday evening "gig" for 17 years, where they play old country and western songs that our senior citizens can appreciate and enjoy.

Bringing music and joy to the residents of the Walbridge Wing

By DOC WATSON
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER Johnny and Virginia Barton have had a regular Thursday evening "gig" at the Walbridge Wing for 17 years, where they play old country and western songs that our senior citizens can appreciate and enjoy. With Johnny on the guitar and lead vocals and Virginia on harmony, they led off on Thanksgiving evening with Merle Haggard's "Today I Started Loving You Again" and went on to provide more than an hour of entertainment for folks who truly appreciate it, both residents and staff.

Originally coming from the Fresno, Calif., area, where they ranch, ran a body shop, sold used cars and had a small band—Johnny also plays banjo and mandolin—they came to Meeker for the hunting about 30 years ago and have been permanent residents since 1992. Johnny works at the Environmental Plant Center, and Virginia is practically a full-time volunteer at the wing, helping with activities or whatever else is needed.

In addition to his many instruments and the portable amplifier and microphones they use each evening, the Bartons also own much sound equipment. It is their

sound system, in fact, that is used each year for the bank robbery reenactment during Meeker's Independence Day celebration.

Jean Gianinetti, Wing activities manager for 14 years, said she could count on one hand how many times the Bartons have missed a Thursday evening. "They have also played for special occasions, such as [Ethel] Starbuck's 99th birthday party," she said. "A lot of our residents' families have had them play at the resident's funeral service because the residents love them so much."

In addition to all this, Johnny has built the flower boxes around the facility and planted flowers in them. "He is just a wealth of knowledge when it comes to plants," Gianinetti said. "It's kind of barren up here, so he has really helped us figure out what to do."

"I really can't think of anything they haven't done for our residents," Gianinetti went on to add. "Ginny has gone on trips with me to take our residents shopping and things like that. Without people like Ginny and Johnny—and we do have other volunteers—my job would be miserable. I am just so glad for this opportunity to acknowledge them."

As Alabama's "Born Country" came through the speaker, such volunteers were, indeed, something to be thankful for.

WEATHER



Saturday: 53/31 Sunny



Sunday: 49/26 P.M. showers



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ **Holiday Social Final Deadline Nov. 29.** Adults 50-plus are invited to join ERBM for a holiday social on Dec. 7. Register at the rec center or by calling 970-878-3403 by Nov. 29 so an accurate count can be given to the caterer.

■ **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.

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

■ **Adult Open Gym** pickleball Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in the MES gym. For 18 and older. Volleyball Tuesdays from 7:30-9 p.m. in the MES gym. Adult open gym basketball Wednesdays from 7:30-9 in the MES gym. Call 878-3403 for details.

■ **The Meeker Library Book Club** meets at 1 p.m. the second Monday of each month (excluding holidays). All interested readers are welcome. Stop by the Meeker Library for details.

■ **Storytime at the Rangely Regional Library** Tuesdays at

10 a.m.

■ **Quilting Group.** Tuesdays from 1-9 p.m. at the Meeker Public Library. All are welcome. Come during hours that fit your schedule. Bring your sewing machine and project. Making quilts for the Walbridge Wing and hospice care.

■ **Gentleman's Club** meeting every Tuesday at 9 a.m. at the Meeker Recreation Center and each Thursday at 9 a.m. at the VFW, 290 4th St. in Meeker.

■ **Mountain Valley Bank** will be doing a "Lobby Blitz" every Wednesday to provide customers with a one on one online banking and mobile banking mini course.

■ **Game Day** for adults 50-plus on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. in the Meeker Recreation Center lounge. Call 878-3403 or visit meekerrecdistrict.com.

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

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

■ **ERBM Holiday Appreciation Drawing** Dec. 1-20. Visit the Meeker Recreation Center to submit your name into the drawing for a membership or gift certificates. Drawing will be held Dec. 21. Winners will be notified that day and listed on ERBM's Facebook page.

SHINING ...



PATTI HOKE PHOTO

The history of the cross above Meeker nearly mirrors the history of electric lighting. White River Electric Association provides the maintenance and covers the cost of keeping the cross lit year-round.

Meeker's lighted cross has a long history

By NIKI TURNER
niki@theheraldtimes.com

MEEKER | The lighted cross on Lobo Mountain above Meeker has a long history. So long, in fact, it almost provides a timeline of the history of electric lighting techniques.

"The first year I helped was 1960," said former White River Electric Association (WREA) employee Leon Stout. "Roger Purdy was the (WREA) manager at the time." Stout worked at WREA for 44 years. He's not sure who had the original idea to install the original wood-framed cross on a radio antenna pole and light it during the month of December and on Easter weekend.

"It had incandescent lights with glass covers to

protect the bulbs from the weather," Stout said, "On maybe a 50 foot pole."

WREA employees would make the trip up the mountain for maintenance as needed. Later, WREA acquired the 100 foot microwave radio towers for communications.

Stout said they took 200-300 feet of light strings to the new tower with the intention of creating a lighted star.

"We didn't have enough lights, so we made a cross instead."

As the years progressed and technology changed, so did the cross's lighting. Over time the cross has been illuminated using neon tubes, fluorescent tubes, and most recently, LED strings.

"It's an aggressive environment," said former

WREA General Manager and current WREA board member Richard Welle, noting steps had to be taken to protect the lighting system from harsh weather and cold temperature.

"I have to give a shout-out to the linemen who climb that 100-foot tower to replace lights," Welle said.

WREA has paid for the maintenance and cost of lighting since the beginning.

"If part of it goes out, people let us (WREA) know instantly. A lot of people look at it."

Sometime in the early 2000s, during Welle's tenure, members of the local ministerial alliance surveyed the community to determine support for keeping the cross lit year-round. The results were positive, and the cross continues to shine.

Nielsen resigns from school board

RANGELY | Rangely School Board President Leslie Nielsen resigned her position on Tuesday saying that her family is relocating. The board will fill the vacancy by appointment. Letters of interest from those who would like to serve on the board should be sent to the district office no later than Dec. 8.

Meeker Community Choir
Presents
"On This Shining Night"
A Cantata for Christmas
Sunday, December 10th High School Auditorium
3:00pm Free of Charge

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 9, 2017
8:30am - 11:00am
Fairfield Center
FREE
Have a merry morning with Santa and enjoy a breakfast prepared and served by the Meeker Lions Club.
Bring your wish list to share with Santa and some non-perishables to donate to the local food pantry.
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Volunteers will be there to assist you.
Sponsored by Meeker Ministerial Alliance & Love INC. Questions? Call 878-5823.

NEWS BRIEFS

The Upstairs Gallery hosts open house

MEEKER | Kick off your holidays with an open house at The Upstairs Gallery Thursday, Nov. 30 from 5-8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 1 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The featured artwork will be paintings by Pat Sheeran-Daggett, ceramics by Andy Goettel and Deb Stewart, glasswork by Tasha Goedert, silk scarves and jewelry by Joanne Nelson and Jennifer Taylor and floral arrangements and wreaths by Katie Conrado. Please stop in and enjoy the art and refreshments and a bit of holiday cheer. The Upstairs Gallery, Hugus Building, 592 Main No. 11. Meeker.

Christmasfest festivities in Rangely

RANGELY | Dec. 7 is the annual Light Up Rangely contest. Sleigh rides and a chili and cocoa bar will be Dec. 8. The Elf Land Carnival, the Snowflake Baby contest, Breakfast with Santa, Parade of Lights and the a cappella concert take place Dec. 9. For more information and a complete schedule of events, call the Western Rio Blanco Recreation and Park District at 970-675-8211 for details, or visit westernrioblanco.org.

Free movie night at Meeker VFW Dec. 7

MEEKER | The Meeker VFW Post 5843, the Auxiliary, and American Legion cordially invite the public to attend the showing of "Pearl Harbor." There will be popcorn. There is no cost, we will accept donations. The place to be is 290 Fourth St. in Meeker on Dec. 7, 2017, at 7 p.m. (1900!)

Holiday trade show in Meeker Dec. 8-9

MEEKER | Holiday Meeker Market and Craft and Trade Bazaar Friday, Dec. 8 from 12-7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hugus Building, Sixth and Main. Booths are available for exhibitors to display and share information about your businesses, crafts and trades. Holiday shoppers can take advantage of art, crafts, food items, heritage trades, direct sales and home party merchandise. For more information or to set up a booth call JoAnn at 970-878-5510 or email joann@meekerchamber.com.

BLM Christmas tree permits on sale

RBC | Permits for cutting Christmas trees on Bureau of Land Management lands within suggested areas of the White River Field Office are now on sale. Permits are \$10 per tree and may be purchased at the White River Field Office, 220 E. Market St., Monday through Friday between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Permits are also available at the Rio Blanco County Clerk Office in Rangely. Maps of suggested cutting areas are available where permits are sold. Pinyon pine and junipers are the only types of trees that may be cut. The BLM allows three permits per household to be purchased at a time. For more information, call the BLM information desk 970-878-3800.

Scholarship opportunity for RBC students

RBC | Colorado currently has 13,500-plus open computing jobs with an average salary of \$98,597, yet Colorado had only 785 computer science grads in 2015. These Colorado graduation rates and technology training opportunities impact the students and their families, businesses, community and the state economy. CTA, Colorado Succeeds and Silicon STEM Academy have partnered on a \$20,000 scholarship fund for 100 Colorado students statewide to jumpstart their future in tech through online coding classes. Funded by Silicon STEM Academy, the classes—available online—are just one piece of a multi-pronged approach to increase computer science education in our state. The goal is to offer the scholarship to 50 percent females and have 50 percent participate from outside the Denver-Boulder area. Learn more and apply for the computer science scholarship at www.siliconstemacademy.com/. Rio Blanco County Economic Development Director Katelyn Cook has offered to help local students with the application process. Potential applicants can contact Cook at 970-878-9474 or email katelyn@rbc.us. Applications are due Dec. 20.

RANGELY: Budget discussion

► Continued from Page 1A

Lieb stated that both land use and reservoirs can be leading causes of algae blooms.

The study is estimated to cost \$114,000 in its first year. Meeker has currently budgeted \$8,000 for the effort. Lieb estimated that the study would conclude in fall of 2019.

Councilman Andy Key was concerned that conducting the study could impact the water district's ability to continue working towards the Wolf Creek Reservoir as well as governmental involvement in the study and potential consequences.

Town Planner Jocelyn Mullen emphasized the importance of immediate voluntary involvement in mitigating the potential causes of the bloom to prevent further government requirements.

In previous meetings several council members expressed concerns about using USGS to complete the study saying the preferred to use a private company. Mullen informed the council that Meeker has requested to work solely with USGS on the study.

Mullen also updated the council on the asbestos abatement team proj-

ect saying that County Commissioner Jeff Rector had expressed a desire to see the contracting done by private business as opposed to creating a government entity to deal with the problem. According to Mullen the commissioners are hopeful that by creating a dump able to accept asbestos materials the cost of abatement would be drastically reduced making private contracting options more affordable. Key agreed with Rector's sentiment saying "I'm going to fight it tooth and nail because I think it's completely not our place as a public entity. This is getting way too specialized for government involvement."

The Bureau of Land Management is currently seeking public comment regarding the Wagon Wheel Trail System. Chamber of Commerce Director Konnie Billgren emphasized the importance of public comment supporting the trail system so that people that don't live here don't block the effort. Comments are due by Dec. 31.

The council will be meeting next Tuesday with the RDA and RDC to discuss Better City goals. The meeting is being facilitated by the Department of Local Affairs.

Mental health services discussed at networking meeting

By REED KELLEY
reed@theheraldtimes.com

RANGELY | Nearly 30 folks gathered at the CNCC Weiss Building Tuesday for the monthly community networking meeting. Called to order by CNCC President Ron Granger, the group hosted Mind Springs Health Care and West Springs Hospital CEO Sharon Raggio of Grand Junction whose presentation was entitled "Mental Health Matters."

Raggio spoke of the continuum of mental health care in which Mind Springs is critically involved in Rio Blanco County as well as having a presence through the wider north-west Colorado region. The spectrum includes prevention—integrated care partnerships and community presence; direct care through the medical neighborhood and case management—inpatient hospitalization, being a bridge between services, outpatient care, crisis and substance abuse services; and

recovery—residential rehabilitation, support services, social club and vocational services.

Mind Springs Rio Blanco staffers at the meeting included the primary Mind Springs contact in the county, Michelle Huber of Rangely, as well as Brenda Kohler and Catherine Eliason of Meeker, and Tom Gangel, the regional coordinator out of Steamboat Springs. Raggio announced that they have been down a clinician in Meeker but are bringing in licensed clinician Kelly Garcia starting Dec. 11. Raggio thanked the RBC commissioners for helping fund and arranging for this welcome addition.

Ken Harman, CEO of Meeker's Pioneers Medical Center, expressed appreciation for Garcia coming on board explaining that her services will enable greater placement of patients in the continuum. He also emphasized the need for more community-based training in "mental health first aid." Julie Drake, county health supervisor, indicated such

training has been scheduled, for starters, in January.

Raggio also reported that Mind Springs services in RBC are split roughly 50/50 between male and female clients. Rangely, where the primary need was substance abuse, largely alcohol, served 187 unique individuals in the last year. In Meeker, where the primary need is straight mental health, mostly post traumatic stress disorder cases, 208 individuals have been served. Raggio explained that the whole system, starting with Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements, is shifting toward determining payment rates based on patient satisfaction surveys. To date, these surveys have shown RBC patients to be reasonably well satisfied. Meeker surveys resulted in a score of 82 percent "top block" vs. a national average of 75.8 percent.

County Sheriff Anthony Mazzola asked about the availability of new mental health beds and funding assistance for transporta-

tion now available thanks to legislation this last year. Raggio confirmed that six-bed, crisis stabilization facilities are being developed in Frisco and Montrose. She added that the Western Slope has had six such beds available per 100,000 population while the Front Range has had 28 psych beds available per 100,000, a "huge difference." The Frisco and Montrose additions are considered "pilot programs" by the legislature, Raggio added. She explained that the funding source for this endeavor is the state marijuana tax.

Also mentioned was the Women's Recovery Center that's part of Mind Springs' Grand Junction services. It involves a 90-day intensive drug and alcohol rehabilitation program, the only one in the state solely for women. The program allows children to stay in the facility with the mothers during treatment.

► See MENTAL HEALTH, Page 10A



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24 oz. Hunts PASTA SAUCE 99¢	18 pk. Western Family LARGE EGGS 2 for \$4	12 oz. Sweet Petite CARROTS 2 for \$3
8-13.8 oz. Keebler CRACKERS 2 for \$5	8 oz. Cache Valley SHREDDED CHEESE \$1⁹⁹	16 oz. Bing Z Kombucha HARVEST APPLE \$2⁹⁹
16 oz. Zesta CRACKERS 2 for \$5	MEAT	15.2 oz. Kevita Sparkling PROBIOTICS \$2⁹⁹
24 pk. Nestle Pure Life WATER \$2⁹⁹	Boneless Beef RUMP ROAST \$2⁹⁹/lb.	Roma TOMATOES \$1²⁹/lb.
FROZEN	Boneless Top Loin PORK CHOPS \$2⁴⁹/lb.	8 oz. Dole Spinach Cherry Almond Blue SALAD KIT 2 for \$5
28-32 oz. Western Family Frozen Fries or HASHBROWNS \$1⁹⁹	WV Beef Tenderloin FILLET MIGNON \$9⁹⁹/lb.	10.8-14.4 oz. Dole Chopped SALAD KITS 2 for \$5
6 ct. Creamies Frozen Yogurt BARs \$2⁵⁹	3.2-4.4 oz. Oscar Mayer LUNCHABLES 4 for \$5	Loose Russet BAKER POTATOES 59¢/lb.
16-24 oz. Farm Rich FROZEN SNACKS \$4⁹⁹	8 oz. Land O' Frost Deli Shaved LUNCHMEAT \$2¹⁹	Crisp CELERY HEARTS 2 for \$5
		1 lb. Mini SWEET PEPPERS \$3⁹⁹



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EDITOR'S COLUMN...

The ink shall remain

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



We witnessed something interesting—and maybe a little disturbing—about the transient nature of social media this week. The Meeker Police Department posted a photo of one of the town's "pet" deer before and after it was shot with an arrow by a careless, thoughtless individual last weekend, resulting in the animal's death. Now, most folks around here hunt (or at least eat our weight in venison) and we decorate our homes and businesses with antlers and fur, but we also have a healthy reverence and respect for the life of those creatures, particularly the ones who take up residence in our yards. The post spurred immediate outrage.

Within a few hours, comments ran to threats and accusations, and that's when things got ugly. The MPD received complaints about the post because it was "inciting threats" toward the culprit and the photo was "too graphic." (I'm pretty sure whoever complained about it being too graphic doesn't live here or is new to town and missed hunting season.) The police department took the post down Monday night.

And POOF. Every comment, every reaction, every share disappeared in an instant. Gone, as if they never existed. All that human emotion and mental turmoil and wrath and rage just evaporated in a millisecond. (If only we could do that with those holiday dinner arguments with the in-laws.)

The internet has given us the power to rewrite/revise history in an instant. That power, coupled with the current push to repeal the FCC's net neutrality regulations and give control of the Internet to the highest bidders, should serve as a warning to us all: we can't allow digital media to replace so-called "legacy" media like print newspapers and magazines and books. Why? Because, as my husband said recently, "The ink shall

remain." Ink has a kind of staying power that digital media lacks. Once it's in print, it's in print. You can't just hit "edit" or "delete" to change it or

fix it. Trust me, I know.

Despite its inherent imperfections, we need to keep print (ink) alive in this era of social media. A society whose channels of information are under the control of a handful of organizations or corporations or administrations is a society in danger of being overrun. There's a reason our country's forefathers included freedom of the press in the First Amendment. They understood the power a truly free press has to harness tyranny and expose corruption.

Here's a thought: Anyone can publish anything on the internet for free. They invest nothing. There's no editing, no vetting, nothing required to prove validity and few consequences. Publishing something on paper comes with a cost. Lots of costs, actually, and it remains as a record for the future. We need that.

After much discussion and seeking wise and experienced counsel, starting next week the price of a copy of the paper will increase to \$1. It's the first increase in 25 years. The cost for subscriptions has increased as well (but there will be a much greater discount for subscribers than there has been in the past).

As a reminder, the increase is just to cover costs of printing and mailing and distribution. We're just catching up with a few decades of inflation.

We're also catching up to new technology and have invested in new software that will make our online edition searchable, linked and mobile and tablet friendly. That new feature will "go live" in the coming weeks and will continue to be free for a period of time so everyone can get

used to it. At some point there will be a nominal fee for readers who only want access to the online edition. Our print subscribers will continue to have free access to the online edition.

There's a surprise in this week's edition for lovers of crossword and sudoku puzzles (not just in the kids' page). It's something I hope we can continue to find room for.

I'm a bit surprised by the silence from the west side of the county following correspondent Jen Hill's editorial last week about Rangely's interest in the paper.

I started working at the paper within a few months of the merger of the *Rangely Times* and the *Meeker Herald* into one countywide publication. I was privy to the constant gripes and grumbles about "no Rangely news" and "too much Rangely news" from both communities. We're still hearing that, more than 15 years later and to be honest, it's frustrating.

I'm wondering if the best option might be to separate the two papers again. Whether that is financially viable is questionable. Does the Rangely community want their own newspaper back enough to fund it financially? Has the Meeker community adapted to including its county sibling, or would it like to go back to being the *Meeker Herald*? From a financial standpoint, siblings don't get their own rooms unless the family has enough resources to buy a bigger house.

If the majority of our audience appreciates having news from both ends of the county in one paper, we'll leave things as they are (less work for us!). As I wrote in my first column more than a year ago, this isn't "our" paper. It needs to serve the communities it reaches, and it needs to do that in a way that satisfies the majority. We're always looking for ways to improve. Thoughts?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Meeker resident displeased by Sierra Club's wolf plan

Dear Editor:

This is an open letter to Richard Levy of the Trappers Lake Sierra Club.

Mr. Levy: Rural communities in Northwest Colorado are struggling to revive their economies. Tourism is one of the possibilities. Communities such as Rangely and Meeker stand a chance of reviving their economies by promoting hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, off road vehicle tours, cross country skiing and family camping.

It is well documented that wolves kill people as well as livestock. Is the Sierra Club willing to step up to the table acknowledge the liberality and take responsibility to pay for the damages and deaths?

With the United States so divided on so many issues, why does the Sierra Club choose to widen the division. At a time when there are so many documented critical issues: climate change, oil spills, fracking, The Sierra Club could choose to provide leadership on resolving some of the worlds life and death issues. Why choose to promote an issue that can only promote more rancor?

Having followed and respected the effort of the Sierra for many years, I am very disappointed to find the Trappers Lake Sierra Club so willing to widen the distrust and anger in America. In doing so you can only cost support for many of your worthwhile efforts.

Please reconsider your decision to support the introduction of wolves into the mountains of Colorado.

Joe Livingston
Meeker

that no one goes hungry. In Colorado alone, over 230,000 seniors are isolated and living alone. Disease-associated malnutrition is estimated to be \$51.3 billion, per year. A staggering number of one in two older adults is either malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished. The nutritional services provided by the Meals on Wheels service allows 92 percent of those seniors to remain living at home, avoiding costly nursing home bills and saving billions in Medicare and Medicaid costs.

Meals on Wheels is a valuable service within our community, serving over 1627 meals in 2017 thus far, and relies heavily on volunteers. PMC's Nutritional Services staff prepares nutritious meals and volunteer drivers deliver those meals Monday through Friday to those who are in need.

PMC is currently seeking volunteer drivers during weekdays beginning at approximately 11 a.m. Delivery takes no longer than one hour. As an added bonus, you will receive a delicious complementary lunch for your time.

We are in need of volunteer drivers for this program. If you want to make a difference and are interested, a simple commitment of one day per week for one hour or one day per month would be helpful. There is truly no better feeling than helping those in need, particularly during the holidays. For more information or to apply, please contact Jamie Turner at 970-878-9770 or email jturner@pioneershospital.org.

Happy Holidays!
Lynne Miller

Director of Nutritional Services at Pioneers Medical Center

970-878-9314

miller@pioneershospital.org

Thank you from a former school board member

Dear Editor:

At this time I would like to say thank you to all those who voted for me, and showed support for the past four years while I served on the school board. I would also like to wish the new board continued success in our district. I enjoyed my years serving on the board and as vice-president of BOCES, and I'm grateful to all the students and citizens of Meeker.

With best regards,
Todd Shults
Meeker

Meals on Wheels makes a difference

Dear Editor:

The holidays are times for family and togetherness, hearty meals and scrumptious treats. While it is easy to take this special time for granted, often there are senior citizens or shut-ins who spend the holidays alone and hungry because they are unable to prepare nutritious meals for themselves or have no family in the area.

Pioneers Medical Center is proud to offer Meals on Wheels to area residents that are unable to obtain or prepare nutritious, healthy meals.

PMC is a member of Meals on Wheels America, a national organization that provides support to ensure

DISCLAIMER: Thoughts expressed on opinion pages are exclusively those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the *Herald Times* staff. 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 emailed to editor@theheraldtimes.com or mailed to PO Box 720, Meeker, CO 81641.

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GUEST COLUMN: HEALTH & WELLNESS

Confusion shouldn't stop patients from buying health insurance

By JANET TRAUTWEIN
Special to the Herald Times



Janet Trautwein

RBC 1 This year's Affordable Care Act open enrollment period started Nov. 1. Millions of Americans will soon visit HealthCare.gov or the online insurance exchange run by their state to shop for 2018 health plans. Many will be confused by what they find.

Premiums have increased significantly. The most popular "silver" exchange plans cost 34 percent more, on average, than they did in 2017. Skimpier bronze plans cost 18 percent more. Generous gold plan premiums have risen 16 percent.

Many insurers won't offer exchange plans at all. There will be just a single exchange insurer in nearly half of all counties.

Luckily, Americans don't have to settle for exchange plans. They can also buy cover-

age "off-exchange." And they may want to consider consulting a certified health insurance agent or broker to determine whether exchange or off-exchange plans are right for them.

Exchange plans are generally more attractive for individuals and families who earn less than 400 percent of the poverty level. That's because these folks—individuals taking home less than \$48,240 or families of four bringing in less than \$98,400—qualify for subsidized coverage. But they can only claim those subsidies through the exchanges.

Off-exchange plans aren't subsidized. So they may be a better fit for the roughly 40 percent of Americans who earn too much to

qualify for subsidies. Some of these plans also generally allow enrollees to visit a wider range of doctors and hospitals. About 5.4 million people purchased off-exchange plans in 2017.

Most people could use assistance when picking a plan. Less than four in 10 Americans are "very confident" that they can select the health insurance plan that's right for them. Only 4 percent of people can define common insurance terms like "deductible," "co-pay," "coinsurance," and "out-of-pocket maximum."

Health insurance agents and brokers can help these folks understand the benefits and drawbacks of various plans. Most of these professionals have 10 or more years of experience in the industry. Three out of four spend "most" or "a lot of" their time explaining options to clients.

Consumers who have sought assistance from agents and brokers in the past have

been extremely satisfied. Nearly 84 percent of people who requested assistance when shopping for plans in 2014 said insurance agents and brokers were helpful. That's a higher satisfaction ranking than any other source of help.

It's easy to see why agents and brokers are popular. They're often able to find better deals than consumers would have found on their own. Premiums are 13 percent lower in counties with the most brokers. Plus, agents and brokers generally don't charge for advice.

These professionals play a pivotal role in helping people sign up for coverage. In California, for instance, agents and brokers signed up 525,000 people for exchange plans in 2014. That represented 40 percent of the state's total exchange enrollees.

Their services will be even more important this year, given some recent changes to the Affordable Care Act. This year's open

enrollment period in HealthCare.gov only runs 45 days, until Dec. 15. In past years, it ran until late January, and will run longer this year in some state exchanges. The federal Department of Health and Human Services is also not spending as much on advertising open enrollment this year. So fewer people may even be aware that they need to sign up.

By helping people sign up for either exchange or off-exchange plans, brokers and agents can ensure a larger, more representative pool of enrollees. That will help stabilize the individual market and reduce future premium spikes.

Americans only have a few weeks to decide on a 2018 health plan. They can ensure they make the right choice by calling in some professional help.

Janet Trautwein is the CEO of the National Association of Health Underwriters.

GUEST COLUMN

Not so fast on tax act, says congressional candidate for 3rd District

By DIANE MITSCH BUSH
Special to the Herald Times



Diane Mitsch Bush

RBC 1 Many economists, tax analysts, nonpartisan organizations like the Joint Committee on Taxation, and former officials from both Republican and Democratic administrations agree that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will not simplify the tax code, provide long-term tax cuts for middle- and lower-income workers or jumpstart the economy.

Contrary to claims by GOP leadership, this bill adds more than 400 pages to the tax code and a whole series of confusing, sometimes conflicting, provisions. It is not a simplification. It rigs the system even more than the current code.

The centerpiece is a \$1.5 trillion dollar permanent tax cut to America's largest corporations who are now making record profits and paying astronomical CEO salaries, paid for by adding at least \$1.4 trillion to the deficit, by ending the limited middle class cuts in 2025, and by major cuts to benefits that working Americans have already paid into: Social Security and Medicare. Additionally, the bill "saves" \$300 billion by ending financial help for those buying health insurance on exchanges and ending the individual mandate to purchase insurance. This provision alone will leave at least 13 million Americans without healthcare coverage and an unknown number unable to pay rapidly rising premiums, likely creating individual bankruptcies. That doesn't even count the billions in mandatory cuts to Medicaid.

The House version cut deductions that currently help middle-income people, like deductions for medical expenses, student loan interest, and expenses incurred by teachers for

needed classroom materials that schools can't afford.

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), which generally supports Republican policies, is strongly opposed to the

House version because their analysis of the bill shows that the help for small business owners claimed by proponents is just not there. In the Senate version, the "small business" benefits accrue to people making more than \$400,000 in profit income annually, with the lion's share going to businesspeople who make \$1 million or more in net income from their businesses.

Claims by our Congressman that the bill "will cap the rate that small businesses can be taxed to 25 percent" ignore the fact that under current tax code, the top rate for income from business profits up to \$400,000 is already 25 percent.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was crafted hastily under pressure to deliver a political win to satisfy the President and big GOP donors. "My donors are basically saying get it done or don't ever call me again," said Congressman Chris Collins (R-NY) on Nov. 13 just before the House vote.

This rush to a "political win" spells a huge loss for the American people. Many analysts have pointed out contradictions, loopholes and tax dodges in this bill that benefit the top 1/10th of 1 percent of earners. Steven Shay, a former Treasury official under Presidents Reagan and Obama, has cautioned about all the unforeseen

consequences in this bill because it was so rushed with few hearings and little public input. Among those are loopholes that may accelerate moving jobs to foreign countries. Shay said, "all of this is happening in an incredible rush, and frankly it is absurd and incredibly poor governing to push a bill of this significance through in the time-frame they are doing."

GOP leaders say the \$1.4 trillion increase in the deficit will be paid for by "growth," but most economists who have run the numbers say that the growth rates in the models are unrealistic. Evidence from past attempts to use the trickle down theory show that it simply does not create new investment and new jobs and may lead to high inflation. Anecdotally when the President's Economic Advisor Gary Cohn asked a group of Wall Street movers and shakers whether they

would invest in new capacity or new jobs with this tax windfall, he seemed surprised when only a few hands went up.

Many statements from GOP leaders and members, including our own Congressman, suggest that they do not understand what is actually in the bill or how it affects people and whole communities. They forget to mention that the Senate bill ends any tax cuts for middle-income earners in 2025, but corporate cuts are permanent. In fact, the Tax Cut and Jobs Act is a giveaway to America's largest corpo-

rations and wealthiest individuals, paid for by increasing deficits and cutting benefits for lower- and middle-income earners.

I strongly urge our Senators to vote no. Then we can develop evidence-based, workable solutions for jobs and economic opportunity for all. We need to level the playing field, not rig it more.

Diane Mitsch Bush of Steamboat Springs is a former Colorado State House Representative HD-26 and a current candidate for the U.S.

Congress in Colorado's 3rd District.

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Thurs.	Dec. 7 - Waffles/Sausage, Tator Bars, Fruit Juice, Maple Syrup, Milk

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Tues.	Dec. 5 - Frito Pie w/ Toppings, Salad Bar w/ Fruit, Milk or Water. JR/SR HIGH A LA CARTE: Sloppy Joe Sandwich
Wed.	Dec. 6 - Macaroni & Cheese, Mixed Vegetables, Salad Bar w/ Fruit, Milk or Water. JR/SR HIGH A LA CARTE: Chicken Sandwich
Thurs.	Dec. 7 - Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Potato Chips, Steamed Corn, Salad Bar w/ Fruit, Milk or Water. JR/SR HIGH A LA CARTE: Taco Bar
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The Pastor's Position

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

HAVING addressed the pastor as a person last time, we turn now to his position. It is interesting, indeed, that without the slightest bit of ambiguity whatsoever, Scripture tells us that the three terms "elder," "bishop," and "pastor" all refer to the same person: *elder* refers to the man's character, *bishop* refers to his position, and *pastor* (and "pastor-teacher") refers to his duty (or function). All this is also historical fact that simply cannot be denied. Historical writers are virtually unanimous on this point. In his book, *Biblical Eldership*, however, Alexander Strauch, is dead on target with this concise historical summary of what happened:

"At the start of the 2nd Century, the overseer (bishop) presides over one local church, not a group of churches. Thus he is called the monarchical bishop. Through the centuries, inordinate authority became concentrated in the bishop. *Unchecked by the New Testament Scriptures*, his role continued to expand. The bishop became a ruler over a group of churches. Some bishops emerged as supreme over other bishops. Eventually they formed councils of bishops. Finally, in the West, one bishop emerged as head over every Christian and every church. But in the churches of the New Testament period, there was no clearly defined, three office system. Instead, there were only two offices as found in Philippians 1:1 . . . elders and deacons" (Littleton, CO: Lewis and Roth Publishers, 1995, p. 310, Note 26 (emphasis added).

With that in mind, what is biblical church government, and what is the pastor's specific position in it? Based upon the fact that an "elder" (*presbuteros*) is mature and has blameless character, he takes on the role of a "bishop," *episkopos*, "overseer, guardian." Unlike *presbuteros*, which is rooted in Jewish culture (Hebrew, *zaqen*; e.g., Ex. 19:7, Num. 11:16, Deut. 27:1, 31:9), *episkopos* is rooted in Greek culture. Emperors appointed bishops to oversee captured or newly-formed cities. Coupled, with that, then, is "pastor." This is *poimēn*, which means "shepherd" and in Classical Greek referred to the herdsman who tended and cared for the sheep. It was also used metaphorically to refer to a leader, a ruler, or a commander.

What does all this tell us of church government and the pastor's position? It has amazed me for many years how something so clear could be in any way misunderstood. The *shepherd/sheep analogy*, coupled with the idea of an overseer, unambiguously speaks of pastoral leadership. Anything else is simply unbiblical. No, he most certainly is *not* a dictator, but neither is he a puppet or a "member of the board"; he is a *shepherd*.

In my research, I came across the following very troubling statement by a well-known church historian: "The church of today [1895] is at liberty to vary from the form of church government prevalent in the first centuries." My dear reader, do you agree with that? Where in Scripture do we see that idea stated or even implied? What does that say about biblical authority and sufficiency? Does that not give us *carte blanc* to do just about anything we want to do, which is pretty much what's going on nowadays?

I would humbly submit, therefore, that what we see in Scripture—and there is again no ambiguity here—is pastors who lead and feed (Acts 20:28). We will explore this as we go deeper into the absolutely fascinating shepherd/sheep analogy.

Announcement: We hope you will visit our website (www.TheScriptureAlone.com), where we just launched our weekly podcast of these devotional studies, starting with the very first one, "Seek Him Early." As always, you are 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] steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42).

Meeker town board renews funding for recycle center

By NIKI TURNER
niki@theheraldtimes.com

MEEKER Trash was the hot topic at the Meeker town board meeting Tuesday, Nov. 21. First, Fain Richardson, manager of Eagle River Waste Services, spoke to the board. Eagle River has purchased the trash service portion of REDI Services, LTD., business in Meeker. REDI will continue to operate the septic and Porta-john portions of the business.

"I think Tom Miller, who's the owner of the company, has a lot of good things to bring to the area," Richardson said.

Eagle River will continue the transfer station operations at the County Road 15 site, and will be starting a drop-off recycling program this week.

"We're not going to do curbside pick-up at this point. We have to pay where we take it to, pay the trucking and the driver," Richardson said, adding that Miller believes providing recycling options is "just the right thing to do."

Eagle River will offer recycling

for cardboard, paper, plastic, aluminum, glass and e-waste. Recycling charges are \$4 a yard. E-waste is charged at \$0.75 per pound.

"A trash cart is considered half a yard," Richardson said.

The board, minus Mayor Regas Halandras and with trustee Danny Conrado attending via conference call, also heard from Lee Overton, owner and operator of Overton Recycling, who has a contract with the town to take care of the local free recycling center on Third Street. Trustees have expressed concerns that the town originally planned to "ratchet down" the funding for the recycling program, and asked Overton to return to them at the Nov. 21 meeting with a proposal for reducing the funding he receives from the town.

"After talking to people from the community and trying to get some direction, what I'm proposing is in 2018 we step it down to \$35,000. In 2019 we step it down to \$30,000. That gives us a plan to see where we're going."

Trustee Travis Day said he called the City of Craig to ask about their

recycling budget, which is set at \$9,000.

"It breaks down to \$7 per person," Day said. The Craig budget includes a community cleanup day, \$200 a month for recycling used oil, and cleanup after special events. "We're doing recycling only, and it figures out to about \$20 per person."

"I think the numbers from Craig are a little skewed," Overton said, because they use town staff and equipment for pick-up and trucking costs.

"I would rather see us continue this in 2019 on the path we've been on, and then either split it between the two entities or cut it back and have a clean-up day in 2019," said trustee Wendy Gutierrez.

Asked about finding a new location for the recycle center (currently at the bottom of Third Street), Overton said he "got a lot of negative feedback" about moving the center to his property at the west end of town where the tire recycling is occurring. "People want it in town," he said.

Meeker Chief of Police Phil Stubblefield said, "As an observation,

in our patrols around town since Lee has been doing the recycling, we're not seeing the refrigerators and washers and things left around town or dumped that we used to see."

"The citizens that I represent, they don't want to see it go away," Day said. "But they don't want to be in competition with private business."

"It could get very expensive for the businesses that recycle," if the free recycling center was discontinued, Gutierrez said.

"We're also subsidizing business interests out of the county as well," trustee Conrado said. "Is that in the best interest of the town? If we could provide clean-up days and recycling for \$40,000, that would be a benefit."

According to Meszaros, the last town clean-up day required 71 trips to the dump made by staff in town vehicles.

"If we've seen a reduction in appliances left around town, that's essentially what we've done," Overton said.

The trustees agreed, with two opposed, to accept Overton's proposal for 2018.

The board also heard from Meeker Chamber of Commerce Director Stephanie Kobald about the wayfinding signage project, which has six signs planned for Market Street and nine signs throughout town to direct traffic to places like the downtown district, the library, the fairgrounds, and Town Park.

"It's our first, biggest project," Kobald said of the project, which is part of the Main Street program. "Wayfinding signage has been talked about for a long time. Working with CDOT (Colorado Department of Transportation) has always been the hurdle. Rangely just went through a signage project so we looked at what they did and followed that."

Town of Rangely Planner Jocelyn Mullen prepared a required traffic plan for Meeker, and CDOT approved the signage. The next steps are approval of the sign locations and funding. The project has \$12,350 funded from a DOLA grant for the Main Street program, an AGNC town grant and a Colorado State Workshop reimbursement.

The project cost is estimated for

the Market Street signs at \$21,000 for design and installation, to be performed by Identity Graphics. The in-town signs are estimated at \$18,000, not including installation, which will be done by town employees.

Mayor Pro Temp Rod Gerloff asked if the town could provide the "make-up" part of the funding after the other entities that will have signage direction are approached for support.

In order to get the AGNC (Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado) grant monies, the town has to pay something by the end of the year.

"We only have one more 2017 meeting to spend the 2017 money," Meszaros said.

The board approved directing up to \$9,500 that was not expended on business grants to the signage project this year, to be applied toward the Market Street signs first.

The 2018 budget will be finalized in December. According to Town Clerk Lisa Cook the \$5,465,172 gen-

► See TOWN, Page 7A

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TOWN: Locals attend annual agriculture conventions in Denver

► Continued from Page 6A

eral fund budget will require the town to dip into reserves to the tune of \$3,328,959. The water fund budget is proposed at \$2,332,080 requiring \$861,460 of reserves to balance the budget. Capital projects include \$1 million for possible relocation of town facilities on Third Street, street projects totaling \$925,000 including engineering for street improvements in the northwest corner of town, and a \$575,000 transfer from the general fund to the water fund to help offset the cost of wellfield improvements.

In other business, the board approved:

■ A special event liquor license for the Lions Club for the hospital Christmas party

■ A tavern liquor license renewal for Chippers Downtown. There were three alcohol-related calls in the last year.

■ The board also approved the Town of Meeker holiday schedule for 2018.

■ The town election will be held April 3. Petitions for the open board positions will be available in January.

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | Locals Kelly Osborn, Kathleen and Reed Kelley attended agricultural conventions in Denver days before Thanksgiving. Osborn, who puts in her daily work at White River Energy, represented the Rio Blanco County Farm Bureau at the Colorado Farm Bureau's (CFB) 99th annual convention at the Hyatt Regency. J.D. Amick, president of the Rio Blanco County Farm Bureau, was unable to attend this year's convention. The Kelleys, members of Northwest Colorado Farmers Union as well as the Rio Blanco County Farm Bureau, attended various sessions of the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union (RMFU) 109th annual convention at the Crowne Plaza, but especially enjoyed the Harvest Moon fundraising dinner gala Friday where Kathleen was honored with a meritorious (lifetime) service award.

The recurring message from panelists and speakers at the RMFU meeting were ideas on how to meet the challenges those in agriculture face in surviving current downturns in the economy. RMFU President Dr. Dale McCall spoke to the importance of the

2018 Farm Bill on agriculture and rural communities so dependent on agriculture. He urged members to voice their concerns and their needs to state and federal legislators. RMFU includes Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico in its membership.

Kelley received the meritorious service award for years of productive activity in agriculture. After seven years being vice-president of RMFU, she became the first and is still the only woman to serve as president of the organization, including its affiliated insurance arm. Kelley worked with others to raise awareness of the impact foreign countries had in "dumping" live cattle (exporting subsidized cattle) into U.S. markets. Through those efforts she co-founded the Ranchers-Cattlemen's Action Legal Fund (R-CALF, USA) which continues to fight the battle to this day, concentrating recently on the need for the re-establishment of mandatory country of origin labeling of beef products in retail markets and the irony of check-off dollars (payments made on each head of cattle every time it's sold) being spent without true government oversight and toward policy actually contrary to the interests of cow-calf pro-

ducers in the U.S.

Through Farmers Union, Kelley published "Packer Concentration in the Beef Industry" in the mid-1990s which highlighted the growing concentration of market power among corporate processing and marketing agribusiness. Kelley had previously served on the Colorado House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee as a state representative from her west central district she fondly called "Aspen, Vail and Oil Shale." Today she works to impart some of the wisdom gained of her experiences to her students at Meeker High School.

Marsha and Doc Daughenbaugh of Steamboat Springs, their kids and grandkids, were recognized as the RMFU Farm Family of the Year for decades of work across generations as advocates for family farming and ranching. Marsha is currently a member of the state committee for the federal Farm Service Agency and serves as the executive director of the Community Agriculture Alliance in Routt County. Doc has been recognized by the Colorado Riparian Association and Colorado Parks and Wildlife for careful and conscientious habitat management on the ranch. The



COURTESY PHOTO

Kathleen Kelley, center, was awarded the meritorious service award by the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union at their Harvest Moon Gala Dinner, Nov. 17 in Denver. Also pictured are RMFU board chair Jan Kochis (left) and Kelley's husband, Reed (right).

next generation of Daughenbaughs still do ranch work while holding banking and veterinary jobs in Steamboat.

The theme of the 99th annual CFB convention was "Growing Agriculture." The keynote speaker was Gen. Ron Keys (Ret.), who had been commander of the U.S. Air

Force's Air Combat Command. He spoke to issues faced by modern agriculture, as well as threats to our electrical grid. Other speakers included Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture Don Brown, originally from Yuma, and Dale Moore, director

► Continued on Page 13A

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Union

USGS proposes \$260,400 plan to study White River algae problem

By NIKI TURNER
niki@theheraldtimes.com

RBC The White River Algae Task Force heard a proposal to study and identify the recurring algal bloom in the White River from United States Geological Survey (USGS) hydrologist Mike Stevens and western Colorado office chief Ken Leib on Wednesday, Nov. 22.

The objectives of the study are to determine what conditions on the river are contributing to the algae bloom that has caused problems with aesthetics and recreational use of the river. The algae has been documented from the upper waters of the river all the way to its confluence with the Green River in Utah. The water intakes at Kenney Reservoir have been affected by algae overgrowth as well, prompting concerns from the Town of Rangely about drinking water, which comes from the river. Meeker's town water comes from below-ground wells.

Stevens outlined the study's approach. The USGS plans to compile historical data on the river's streamflow, nutrient levels, sediment and more. In 2018, the USGS will collect current data along the river, which will be finalized and prepared as a citable Scientific Investigations Report. The plan is for USGS to monitor eight primary mainstream sites and 12 additional sites on tributaries. Getting private landowner access will be necessary for the success of the study. Hendrickson said they met with five landowners upriver in October.

"There's a sense of urgency among the landowners," Hendrickson said, adding that several of them are already making adjustments to their land management practices in relation to the algae.

The USGS plan is focused solely on the upper White

River, from the headwaters to Meeker, prompting questions from Town of Rangely Planner Jocelyn Mullen.

"So at this point there are no locations on the lower White near Rangely?" Mullen asked.

"We're not planning at this point to go down further," Stevens said.

Mullen said if the study doesn't include any sites on the western side of the county it would be difficult to convince the Rangely board to support the study financially.

"The board is very skeptical," Mullen said. "They feel our issues are very different. If the downstream area isn't covered they're going to want to save their resources."

"The intent of the county was to work with both towns and divide it in thirds. If we're not going to take samples downriver I don't see the Rangely Town Council wanting to contribute," said RBC Commissioner Si Woodruff.

"If we need to keep the costs the same we can move some of those (upper end) sites downstream," Leib said.

The task force asked USGS to add scoping and costs for two years of data collection instead of one year, to improve scientific accuracy, from the headwaters of the White River to the green bridge below Rangely.

The proposed study, which would take place during a three-year process, has an initial price tag of \$260,400, expected to be funded by a combination of stakeholder donations and grants.

The White River Conservation District has created an information page on their website to update the public on the work of the task force at www.whiterivercd.com/white-river-algae-working-group

RIO BLANCO COUNTY DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald — 100 years ago

■ During the last two months 15 postmasters have lost their jobs because they kissed their female clerks. Doubtless a great many others are still holding on because nobody caught them at it.

■ Our "Italian Climate" is living up to its reputation these days.

■ Go to church tomorrow. See the announcement of services at St. James and Methodist churches on another page.

■ Walter Oldland was acting as first vice president of the First National Bank this week. Walter is a good man wherever you put him.

■ Lots of people who are not color blind can't tell black from white when it comes to a lie.

■ Fred Mobley and the boys spent Thanksgiving Day in town.

■ Sheriff Lyon brought in two alleged horse thieves last week, which he captured at Moab, Utah, a few days previously. The names of the accused are Ben Mills and Burrell Watson. They had started operations on a small scale, in the Douglas creek region.

The Meeker Herald — 50 years ago

■ Did you ever pick up the paper and say, "Not much in the paper this week." If you have, ask yourself this, "Did I call in the item about the guests we had, or the vacation we took, or the new baby our daughter had, or about Uncle Joe breaking his leg or ... or ... or ...,"

etc." Did you ever wonder why your neighbor's vacation trip was reported and yours wasn't mentioned? Chances are it was because your neighbor took the time to jot down a few words, or called to let us know the news. Please send or call in your news. We appreciate it and so do our readers.

■ Meeker's Miss Susie Romersberger's ever flashing smile and friendly personality won for her the title "Miss Congeniality" at the second annual Tri-County Junior Miss Pageant.

■ Actually the stores are full of shoppers these days which leaves us to remind you not to give all the velvet to the surrounding towns. Our merchants are here all year long.

They extend you credit and are always willing to deal fairly with you. They not only carry as large a selection as stores elsewhere, but they also offer personal service and interest that can't be found elsewhere.

The Meeker Herald — 25 years ago

■ Stage Stop, Larry Steiner's new convenience store and gas station west of town, will host its grand opening this Saturday at 2 p.m.

■ Todd Gerloff and Mark Shaffer looked like a pair of elves dressed in coveralls as they strung Christmas lights and garlands throughout the town on Monday.

■ Jerry Oldland of Meeker was recently named to the Colorado All-State School Board by the Colorado Association of School Boards.

■ The Western State College Mountaineers captured their second consecutive Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference championship this year, thanks in part to Shane Phelan of Meeker. Phelan was one

of the Mountaineers' leading rushers and had four touchdowns on the season.

Rangely Times — 50 years ago

■ Rio Blanco County crews completed resurfacing many Rangely streets last week, in the second year of a five-year project to repave streets and alleys of the entire town.

■ Following a coordinated effort, Rangely's Christmas lighting will be turned on Friday, Dec. 8. Some 15 local organizations have been working together on all facets of this year's holiday observance in what should be the biggest Christmas in Rangely history.

■ Rangely placed only one player on the all-star aggregation. He was the 200-lb. senior Jay Rector and named as a defensive guard. Rector had been outstanding for the Panthers for the past three years. Receiving honorable mention were Panthers Mike Hutton, Joe Turner, Dale Stahlecker and Tom Suchar.

Rangely Times — 25 years ago

■ Last period on Dec. 1 had been in session only a few minutes when the phone rang at the middle school. The anonymous caller indicated that there was a bomb in the building. School Superintendent Bob Mullen was immediately contacted and he said the building should be evacuated and the police notified. By 8 p.m. Sergeant Dan Eddy was certain there was no bomb in the building and the okay was given that the school could be used normally again.

■ In an RDA matter it was announced that requests for proposals to develop a supermarket on a 1.65 acre parcel in downtown Rangely were sent to the major chains, the convenience stores and the local grocery stores.

■ Three Webelo Scouts were awarded their Arrow of Light Rank on Nov. 19 at the Pack meeting. They belong to Pack 189: Trevor Packer, Tim Gonzales and Isaac Byers.

RIO BLANCO COUNTY WEEKLY CALL REVIEW

The following information is a weekly review of the calls for service that were reported to 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.

Nov. 20-26, 2017

For the last week the dispatch center processed 377 phone calls, receiving 19 911 calls, answered 32 calls for Meeker Police Department and placed

102 outgoing phone calls. A total of 162 calls for service were created, 94 for the Sheriff's Office, 68 for MPD and 10 calls for Meeker Fire and Rescue. (Please note the department breakdown of calls reflects a different number because of incidents with multiple agency response). There were six auto crashes reported throughout the county, four involving elk or deer.

The Sheriff's Office conducted 52 traffic stops issuing seven summons, while MPD had 20 stops issuing 20 warnings.

Other calls for the Sheriff's Office

included 14 agency assists, two animal calls, two business checks, five citizen assists, three motorist assists, two traffic complaints, three traffic hazards, two warrant arrests and one each: 911 hangup, attempt to serve civil papers, civil, domestic violence, suspicious incidents, theft, traffic accident and wildlife violation.

Meeker Police Department calls included six agency assists, two 911 hang ups, two animal calls, 24 business checks, two motorist assists, three VIN inspections and one each: abandoned vehicle, alarm, civil, criminal mischief,

disturbance, domestic violence, parking violation, traffic accident.

There were eight calls for Meeker Fire and Rescue, five ambulance requests, one facility transports and two fire calls to controlled burns.

There were four assists for Colorado State Patrol.

Rio Blanco Detentions facility booked in six and released four and currently have 16 inmates. There was one inmate transport to or from other facilities.

There were no DUI arrests made by MPD.

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OBITUARY

Shirley Jean (Cavaliere) Barone

Aug. 3, 1928~Nov. 16, 2017



Shirley Jean (Cavaliere) Barone

Shirley Jean (Cavaliere) Barone, of Villa Grove, Salida, and Meeker, Colo., passed on Nov. 16, 2017, at the age of 89 in the White Wing Mansion Hospice Care facility in Gilbert, Ariz. Shirley Jean Barone was born on Aug. 3, 1928, in Villa Grove, Colo. She was the daughter of Frank Cavaliere and Mary (Turano) Cavaliere, both immigrants from Calabria, Italy. Shirley's mother, Mary, was a postmaster for the United States post office in Villa Grove for many years. Shirley grew up in a house that provided a post office to the community at the front of the house and a loving home behind the post office. Shirley's father, Frank, worked as a foreman for the Colorado Rio Grande Railroad, helping build the Durango Narrow Gauge Railway and other

Rio Grande railways. Shirley had four other siblings, Rose Weir (who passed in 2014) and the following surviving siblings: Emma Erickson, Dr. Frank Cavalier and his wife Jamie Cavalier, and Jim Cavalier and his wife Karen Cavalier. Shirley attended elementary school in a one room school house in Villa Grove until she went to high school in Salida, Colo., where she lived with her grandmother, Flora Turano, also an immigrant from Italy who had raised nine children and followed her husband, Pasquale Turano, a section engineer for the railroad.

After graduating from high school Shirley attended Adams State College where she earned bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees in secondary education. On Aug. 22, 1948, Shirley married Sam Barone at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in

Salida. The couple moved to Meeker in January 1951, where they were hired mid-year to teach. Shirley taught for 35 years most of which was seventh and eighth grade math students under the leadership and principal-ship of her husband Sam. Mr. Barone worked for the Rio Blanco Unified School District for 30 years before retiring. In 1975 Mr. Barone was honored when the junior high was named Barone Junior High School now Barone Middle School. Sam and Shirley were leaders, mentors and friends to their students and teachers

throughout their careers.

Mrs. Barone was also known for her homemade Italian cooking. In her retirement, Shirley remained active, playing Golf with Sam and local friends, and going on a variety of outings with family and friends.

In 1989, the Barones bought a home in Chandler, Ariz., and spent winters there, volunteering in the classroom of their daughter, Michelle Barone Lopez. Sam and Shirley were married for 56 years when Sam passed on May 12, 2005. After Sam's passing Shirley moved to Chandler and later moved in with

Michelle and her children.

Shirley is survived by her above mentioned three siblings, her daughter Michelle Lopez of Gilbert, Ariz., her sister-in-law and husband Lenna and Bob Finck, of Salida, Colo., and four grandchildren: Christina Wolfe and partner Ken Kreslake, of Flagstaff, Ariz., a great-granddaughter, Sierra Kreslake Wolfe also of Flagstaff, Christopher Wolfe, of Worcester, Mass., Monica Lopez, and David Lopez, of Gilbert. Shirley is also survived by the following nieces and nephews: Rosanne Raichl, Mary and Gregg

Kirkland, Jim and Connie Weir, Debbie and John Fabrizio, Craig and April Cavalier, Jamie and Gloria Cavalier, Kristin Cavalier, Joe Cavalier, Jeanna Jaspersen, Debbie Finck-Gallagher and John Tancik.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Meeker. Inurnment will follow at Highland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Shirley's memory to Holy Family Catholic Church in care of Grant Mortuary.

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Free Christmas tree permits available for fourth graders

Special to the Herald Times

RBC Christmas tree permits are now available for purchase at White River National Forest office locations. The cost per permit is \$10 and may be purchased with cash, check or credit card at office locations. There is a maximum of five tree permits per person. Permits will be sold through Friday, Dec. 22 at the Blanco Ranger Station: 220 East Market St., in Meeker from Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Free Christmas tree permits for fourth graders:

The White River National Forest is excited to continue the Fourth Grade Free Christmas tree Program again this holiday season. Fourth graders are eligible for a free Christmas tree permit through the Every Kid in a Park (“Every Kid”) Initiative. In support of this initiative, the Forest Service will make available a free Christmas tree permit to every interested fourth-grader who presents

a Fourth Grade Pass or paper voucher at a district office or the supervisor’s office.

■ Instructions on how to obtain a pass and collect a free tree permit: In order for students to receive a free tree permit, they must present a valid pass or paper voucher printed from the Every Kid in a Park website: everykidinapark.gov/. Visit the website, click on the “Get Your Pass” button and follow the instructions on the website to obtain the voucher. Print out the paper voucher and bring it with you to a district office or the supervisor’s office. Mail-order form is not an option for this program. The fourth grader and family member must present the voucher in-person at a Forest Service office location (not applicable to vendor locations). Only one free-tree permit is allowed per fourth grader.

■ Mail-order Christmas tree permits: Mail-order permits will be available again this year by check or money order. Individuals can down-

load and print an online form, fill out the form and mail it with payment to the Supervisor’s Office in Glenwood Springs. Christmas tree permits will be mailed within 2-3 business days. The mail-order Christmas tree permit form is located here: www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver under the link “Passes and Permits” or by clicking the Christmas tree permit spotlight on the homepage.

■ How to cut a Christmas tree: Christmas tree cutting is allowed in most areas on the White River National Forest with the following exceptions: Wilderness areas, Scenic Byways, Glenwood Canyon, the Maroon Bells Scenic Area, commercial timber sales areas, recreation and ski areas, campgrounds, trailheads, developed sites and administrative areas. Trees may not be cut within 100 feet of any road or trail. Maps showing where Christmas tree cutting is allowed are available at all offices where permits are sold, and will be provided with permits along with a

regulations list.

Trees must be less than 15 feet tall from the stump, may not be greater than 6 inches in diameter at the base of the tree, and the stump height should be no greater than 6 inches high. Trees are for personal use only and cannot be resold. The tags must be attached to the tree at the cutting location and must be left on the tree until it arrives at its final destination.

Reminder: The Forest Travel Management Plan closes many forest roads prior to or on Nov. 23. As a reminder, winter Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs) have been produced for the entire Forest and show forest roads, trails and areas that have been designated for closures and over-snow motor vehicle use. Motorized users are responsible for obtaining an MVUM to determine where one can drive, ride and recreate. These maps are free and are available at Ranger Stations or on the Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/whiteriver/recreation.

MENTAL HEALTH:

► Continued from Page 3A

Julie Drake reminded the group that RBC is embarking on its five-year health assessment process. She mentioned that as part of the effort she has reached out to the faith community and has found that they feel somewhat excluded from community mental health endeavor even though many of them have counseling experience and training. Work to resolve this dilemma ensues.

Perhaps the most exciting announcement Raggio made was Minds Springs’ soon to be completed new behavioral health West Springs hospital in Grand Junction, being built adjacent to their current campus at 515 28 ¼ Road, just north of North Avenue. The 63,000 square-foot building is to be opened in late 2018 and will offer a total of 48 beds for psychiatric patients. Sixteen of those beds will be dedicated to children and adolescents.

The total project costs are

\$17.75 million for which Mind Springs is only short \$4 million in their current fund-raising, according to Raggio. Further grants and donations are “in the works.” Mind Springs knows the services of the new facility will be extremely helpful to their emergency room and law enforcement partners. West Springs is the only psychiatric hospital on the Western Slope. For more information and ways to donate, parties are urged to visit BuildingSanctuary.org.

An anonymous gift of \$70,000 out of Eagle County has enabled the hospital to include rooftop-mounted solar panels which will provide about an eighth of the electricity for the facility’s operations according to press reports. There will be 68 panels with inverters involved at the beginning, but this array can be enlarged later.

Mind Springs maintains a 24/7 crisis hotline and mobile response at 800-207-4004.

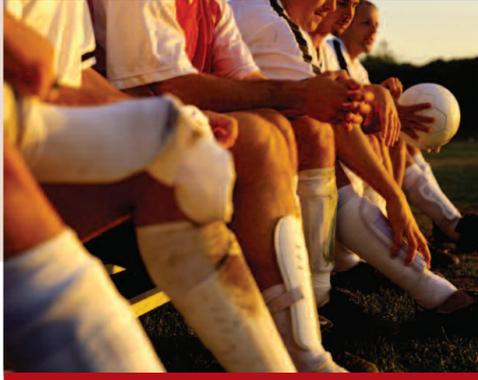
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We apologize if we have somehow forgotten to include your name!



Lady Panthers open season tonight in WREA Cowboy Shootout

By **BOBBY GUTIERREZ**
bobby@theheraldtimes.com

RANGELY I The lady Panther basketball team will open the season tonight in Meeker against the Moffat County Bulldogs in the first round of the White River Electric Association Cowboy Shootout, which begins today at 4:30 p.m.

Rangely will also have a JV team, which will play the Grand

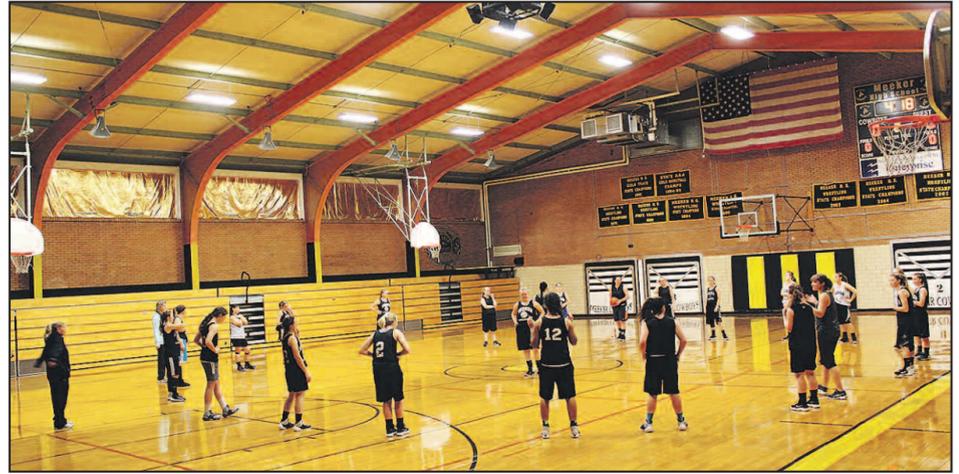
Valley Cardinals in Meeker's auxiliary gym today at 6 p.m., while both Rio Blanco County C-teams will tipoff against each other to start Friday's action at 3 p.m.

"I'm excited about our first game out this year being against Moffat County," Rangely head coach Jimmie Mergelman said. "It should be a good game."

Mergelman is starting her seventh year as head coach of the lady

Panthers and took her team into the second round of the regional tournament last year. Mergelman said she has 20 girls out for the team this year and "making it to the state tournament" is her team's goal this season.

Providing the senior leadership this year will be Katelyn Brown, Halie Elam, Sarah Connor and Miekka Peck. Jeremy Lohry and Danielle Dahl will assist Mergelman with the coaching duties.



BOBBY GUTIERREZ PHOTO

Meeker High School girls' basketball coach Jamie Rogers said her girls "have been practicing strong" and the coaches are excited to see how they respond to "real game situations." All three teams will play games this week in the annual White River Electric Association's Cowboy Shootout, where the varsity will open the season tonight against Moffat County's JV team at 7:30 p.m.

Lady Cowboys ready to build on successes as they start the season

By **BOBBY GUTIERREZ**
bobby@theheraldtimes.com

MEEKER I Second year girls' basketball coach Jamie Rogers hopes to continue to build on the success of the Meeker High School girls' sports programs this season and her teams are ready to start the season with new confidence.

"With the successes the girls had last year in track and then this fall in volleyball and softball, the girls have a new confidence," coach Rogers said.

Meeker will be led by seniors Sierra Williams, Riley Pertile, Brittany Adams and Kiyoko Thelen.

The lady Cowboys will put three teams on their home courts this weekend, starting tonight when the var-

sity will play Moffat County's JV team at 7:30 p.m., while the JV team will play Soroco in the auxiliary gym at 4:30 and Meeker's C team will play Aspen at 7:30 p.m.

Meeker's varsity team is on the same side of the bracket as Cedaredge and Aspen, while Rangely will play Moffat County at 4:30 p.m., with Soroco and Mesa Ridge JV starting the tournament today at 3 p.m.

Each team will play a game each day, with the championship scheduled to be played Saturday at 3:30 p.m. All teams will enjoy a pancake breakfast Saturday, followed by a three-point contest before the games begin.

"The girls have been practicing strong," coach Rogers said. "We're excited to see how the girls will respond to real game situations."

SENIOR ATHLETES...



BOBBY GUTIERREZ PHOTO

The Meeker boys' basketball team will be idle during the first week of the winter sports season and open the season a week from today in the annual WREA Cowboy Shootout. The Cowboys' varsity team will be dominated by senior players including, Doak Mantle, Logan Hughes, Eli Newman, Trapper Merrifield, Zach Dinwiddie, Valentin Rosas and Victor Varela.



BOBBY GUTIERREZ PHOTO

Meeker seniors Sierra Williams, Riley Pertile, Brittney Adams and Kiyoko Thelen will lead the lady Cowboys this season, beginning today in the annual White River Electric Association's Cowboy Shootout. Meeker will put three teams on the court this weekend, with the varsity opening the season against Moffat County's JV team at 7:30 Thursday.

ALL-STATE PANTHERS...



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

Rangely High School senior Patrick Scoggins (center) was named to the Colorado all-state first team in cross country. Seniors Sarah Connor and Katelyn Brown were named to the all-state honorable mention for volleyball.

Cowboys open season in CMU duals

By **BOBBY GUTIERREZ**
bobby@theheraldtimes.com

MEEKER I The Meeker Cowboy wrestling team, last year's 1A Colorado state runner-up, will open the 2017-2018 season in Grand Junction this weekend, competing in the Colorado Mesa University Duals. The varsity Cowboys will wrestle five duals, while the JV team will compete Saturday in tournament in Olathe.

"The kids are excited," said Meeker head coach J.C. Watt, who is starting his seventh year at the helm of his alma mater. "We have 20 kids out and all 20 are motivated."

The Cowboys will be led by seniors Garrett Frantz, Jacob Pelloni and Christopher Strate. Frantz was a state qualifier last year and Pelloni placed fourth in the Big Show last February in the Pepsi Center.

"All of our seniors have four years of experience, which will provide good leadership for our underclassmen," Coach Watt said.

The Cowboys graduated four state finalists last year and Coach Watt expects to fill 10 or 11 of the 14 varsity weights at the beginning of the season.

"The whole league lost a bunch of seniors last year but the league will still be very competitive," Coach Watt said of teams like



BOBBY GUTIERREZ PHOTO

Meeker High School seniors Jacob Pelloni, Garrett Frantz and Christopher Strate will lead the Cowboy wrestling team this season starting with their first competition this weekend in the Colorado Mesa University Duals. "All of our seniors have four years of experience, which will provide good leadership for our underclassmen," coach Watt said. The varsity will wrestle five duals in Grand Junction and the JV will compete in a tournament in Olathe.

Paonia, Hotchkiss, Cedaredge, Hayden and Soroco. "We have a lot of young kids, so we should improve a lot this year."

The Cowboys have placed in the top three at the 1A Colorado State Wrestling Championships the past four years, including a state

championship two years ago, but Coach Watt expects defending state champion Rocky Ford to be the 1A favorite again this year.

"Rocky Ford returns a bunch of kids from last year, so they will be tough again but we'll be competitive," Coach Watt said.



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

Rangely High School senior boys leading the basketball team this season are Doug Denison, Kobe Broome, Patrick Scoggins, Brennan Noyes, Cameron Filfred and (not pictured) Austin Ficken.

Rangely's Onyett ranked No. 8

RANGELY | Rangely's Colten Onyett ended the fall rodeo season at McNeese University in Texas ranked No. 8 in bareback riding.

Know the rules for your "over the snow" motor vehicle travel in the White River National Forest

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | The White River National Forest's winter motor vehicle use season begins Nov. 23 and ends May 20. During the winter season, all wheeled vehicles (including bikes) are limited to plowed routes or routes opened through special order. Winter Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) identify routes and areas designated for "over the snow" motor vehicle travel. MVUM's are free and available at all Ranger Districts. Please respect the shift from summer travel to winter even if the snowpack is low. Seasonal closures are in place to protect road quality, public safety and to provide critical winter habitat for wildlife.

The Vail Pass area switched to winter use and "over the snow" vehicles Nov. 15. The Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area, which traditionally opens the day after Thanksgiving, will start charging fees when sufficient snow has fallen to begin grooming operations. Season passes are now available for purchase at the Eagle-Holy Cross and Dillon Ranger District offices for \$40. Day passes will be available at Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area trailheads for \$6.

During the winter months, snowmobile clubs groom many roads as a public service using a combination of volunteer time, private, and partner funding, such as Colorado Parks and Wildlife snowmobile program. Please help protect their investment, groomed surfaces, and winter recreation opportunities by respecting signage and

travel restrictions.

Fat-tire biking is allowed on roads open to wheeled vehicles that are plowed. Currently, all trails are closed to fat-tire bikes in the winter in accordance with the White River National Forest 2011 Travel Management Plan. The White River National Forest acknowledges that technology has changed that enables mountain bikes greater capability to operate on packed snow since the 2011 Travel Management Plan was finalized.

The forest is working with the local International Mountain Biking Association representatives who will lead a public process and develop a potential proposal for winter routes that would be open to fat tire biking. International Mountain Biking Association is encouraging users and interested publics to work with local organizations on how the process will work and what routes can be considered or not.

Until then, forest users are asked to obtain and adhere to the Winter Motor Vehicle Use Maps and special orders to provide for visitor safety and protect underlying vegetation and wildlife habitat.

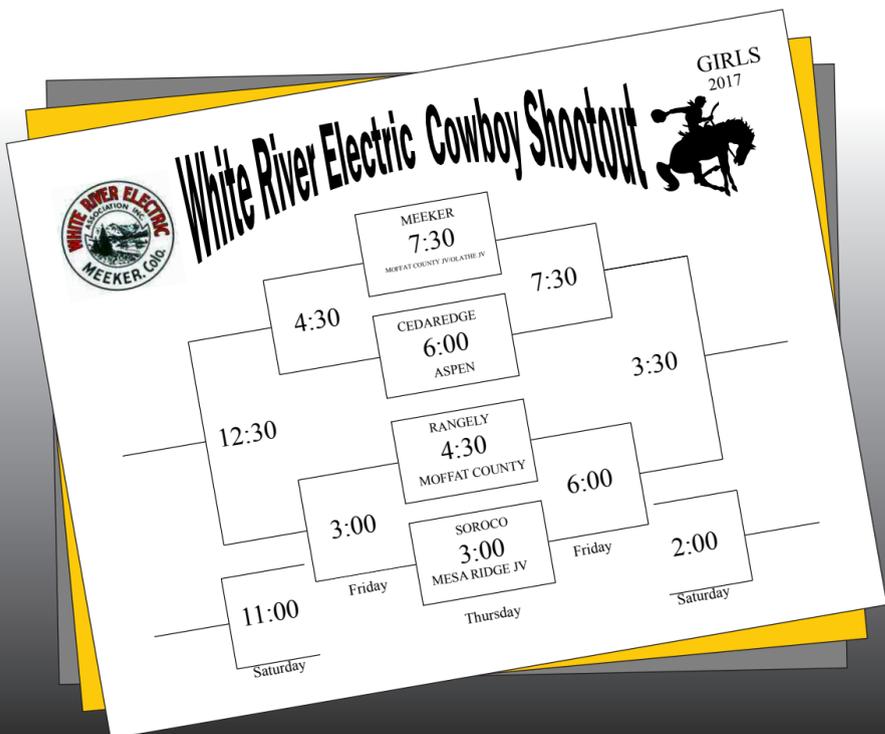
For more information contact your local Ranger District. You may also find information by visiting our home page <http://www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver> and clicking on "Ranger Districts" in the upper right hand corner menu.

Both winter and summer MVUM's are available to download at www.fs.usda.gov/detail/whiteriver/home/?cid=stelprdb5328680.

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RANGELY PANTHERS

THURSDAY
Girls Basketball @ Meeker WREA Cowboy Shootout, 3p

FRIDAY
Girls Basketball @ Meeker WREA Cowboy Shootout, 3p

SATURDAY
Girls Basketball @ Meeker WREA Cowboy Shootout, 11a
JV Boys Basketball @ Steamboat Districts, 9a



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MEEKER COWBOYS

THURSDAY
Girls Basketball @ HOME, WREA Cowboy Shootout, 3p

FRIDAY
Girls Basketball @ HOME, WREA Cowboy Shootout, 3p

SATURDAY
Girls Basketball @ HOME, WREA Cowboy Shootout, 11a
Wrestling Varsity @ CMU Duals, 8a
Wrestling JV @ Olathe, 8a



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BLM seeks public comment on proposed Wagon Wheel West OHV Trail System in RBC

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY | The Bureau of Land Management is seeking comments from the public on its environmental assessment of a proposed 364-mile off-highway vehicle trail system primarily in Rio Blanco County.

Rio Blanco County's proposed Wagon Wheel West OHV Trail System would use mostly existing roads near Rangely, Colo. The proposal includes 220 miles of existing county roads, 141 miles of BLM routes, and three miles of new trail across private land. The BLM's evaluation and decision focus on the BLM routes.

"The BLM strives to be a good neighbor, and we welcome and value diverse views from the communities we serve," said BLM White River

Field Manager Kent Walter. "Comments on this environmental analysis will be most helpful if received by Dec. 31, 2017."

The proposal is part of Rio Blanco County's trails master plan, which seeks to increase trail system-based recreation in the county. In 2016 the County received an OHV grant from Colorado Parks and Wildlife to implement the Wagon Wheel West proposal. Recreation on BLM Colorado-managed public lands generated \$543 million and supported 4,625 jobs in Fiscal Year 2015.

The environmental assessment and maps are available at go.usa.gov/xnW2d.

Comments may be sent to blm_co_wrfotmp@blm.gov or by mail to BLM, White River Field Office, 220 East Market St., Meeker, CO 81641.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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AGRICULTURE: Conventions in Denver

Continued from Page 7A

of public policy for the American Farm Bureau Federation. U.S. Senator Cory Gardner, also from Yuma, made a brief, unexpected visit.

CFB President Don Shawcroft of Alamosa (and Denver) told his group, "This year has been one of great uncertainty on both the political and economic fronts. Farm and ranch income is down, and all signs point to a continued trend of low commodity prices... [but we're looking forward to] our upcoming centennial celebration, and our leap into the next 100 years."

Osborn is also the regional representative on the CFB Women's Leadership Committee which hosted live and silent auctions to support Ag Readers provided to grade school students statewide and other ag education programs. In addition, the committee hosted a luncheon featuring Kelsey Pope. Pope is an avid blogger, a city girl turned rancher, and an advocate for agriculture. Her presentation focused on our story of "why."

"Knowing how to share our story of why we are involved in agriculture, why it's important, and why we can produce more food on less land," Osborn said, "is critical." Pope is

heavily involved in social media and speaking events to promote understanding of current agriculture. She emphasized that agriculture has challenges beyond the weather, market whims and the nature of the work. We are faced, she said, with criticism from many sides, citing animal welfare, chemical contamination, GMO concerns and other issues of consumers exposed to misinformation.

Of interest from a policy perspective is that RMFU supports mandatory country of origin labeling for all food commodities including beef and pork at retail while CFB opposes required country or origin labeling.

WREA Rate Restructure FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Following a detailed analysis, the WREA Board of Directors approved to restructure WREA's Residential, Small Commercial and Irrigation rates.

What Impact does the Rate Restructure Have on Residential Members?

The WREA rate restructure will increase the monthly WREA Service Charge and decrease the kWh energy charge. This will result in an approximate net \$5.00 per month increase for the average WREA Residential member (750 kWh per month). The WREA monthly service charge for Residential members will increase from \$5 to \$15 per month. The kWh energy charge will decrease from \$0.12015/kWh to \$0.113/kWh. WREA staff can help calculate the estimated impact for your specific service.

What Impact does the Rate Restructure Have on Small Commercial Rates?

WREA divided the Small Commercial rate class into Small Commercial Single-Phase and Small Commercial Three-Phase. Members will be placed in the rate class that corresponds to the electric infrastructure that serves their particular meter. Small Commercial Single-Phase Service Charge will increase from \$5 to \$15 per month and Small Commercial Three-Phase will increase from \$10 to \$20 per month. The energy charge for Small Commercial classes will decrease to \$0.113/kWh. WREA staff can help calculate the estimated impact for your specific service.

What Impact does the Rate Restructure Have on Irrigation Rates?

The Irrigation Rate has also been divided into two rate classes. The Irrigation Single-Phase Service Charge will increase from \$10 to \$15 per month and the Irrigation Three-Phase Service Charge will increase from \$10 to \$20 per month. The energy charge for both Irrigation classes will decrease to \$0.113/kWh. WREA staff can help calculate the estimated impact for your specific service.

The LC (Large Commercial) Rate Class has been eliminated. If I have an existing meter in the LC Rate Class, what will my new rate class be?

The Large Commercial Rate class has been eliminated and those meters will be placed in the Small Commercial Three-Phase rate class.

What are WREA's new Connection Fees?

WREA has also changed its Connection Fees. Effective January 1, 2018, WREA's Service Connect and Reconnect fees will increase from \$10 to \$25 for remote Connect/Reconnect and \$10 to \$30 for on-site Connect/Reconnect. In addition, if a service is disconnected and resumed within the same twelve months, Members will be required to pay the monthly Service Charge for the disconnected months.

Why is WREA Restructuring its Rates?

The electric industry has changed a lot over the years. It was time for WREA to reassess its rate structure to ensure that it continues to equitably recoup its costs. This assessment resulted in an increase in the WREA Service Charge and a decrease in the per kWh energy charge. The complexities of rate analysis can be simplified into two basic categories; fixed and variable costs. The WREA Service Charge is the fixed cost paid every month per meter which includes infrastructure, service and operations. WREA's fixed costs exist regardless of a member's actual electric use. The energy charge is the Variable Charge which fluctuates depending on how much electricity is used.

How do WREA Residential rates compare with other Colorado electric cooperatives?

The average Residential Service Charge for Colorado electric cooperatives is \$25.00. The average Residential energy rate for Colorado electric cooperatives is \$0.114/kWh.

When will the rate restructure go into effect?

WREA's new rate structure will go into effect January 1, 2018. Members will see the new rates on their January 2018 electric bill which will arrive in the mail the first week of February.

Please do not hesitate to call WREA at
970-878-5041
with additional questions.



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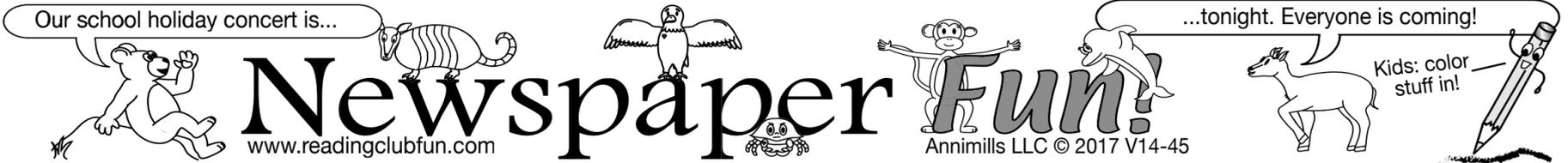
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Kids: color stuff in!

December Days!



I really like the hustle and bustle of December days. Clothing and food drives are in full swing. Bells are ringing, choirs are singing and orchestras are stringing together festive holiday tunes. People are making gifts and shopping for presents. Families are decorating their homes with candles, greens, fruits and flowers. They are baking special treats and sharing meals with family and friends. What is your family doing this month?

Star, here's another stack of donated gifts – a sweater, some candles and gift certificates!

Wow! You're doing a great job of collecting presents for people in our community!

Read these clues to fill in the puzzle with activities that families are doing together:

- _____ with family, friends to celebrate holiday traditions
- _____ stockings, then waiting for Santa to come
- _____ events and selling items to raise money
- _____ coats, hats and gloves to keep others warm
- _____ gifts for friends and family
- _____ and decorating cookies
- _____ holiday books together
- _____ latkes for Hanukkah
- _____ candles on the Kinara (a special candleholder) for Kwanzaa
- _____ stories and teaching their holiday traditions
- _____ joyous songs
- _____ the elderly or ill to bring small gifts and cheer
- _____ their homes with lights, greens, flowers, fruits
- _____ family, friends and neighbors good health and happy holidays
- _____ socks, candy and notes to send to soldiers and sailors serving far away

collecting 3 singing 1 wishing
reading 4 visiting 5 boxing
gathering frying 7 hanging
8 10
11 12 lighting
13 14
holding TOYS making 15 baking
decorating telling

Ornaments for Charity

December

December is a month chock full of holidays, events, parties, concerts and good will toward other people all over the world.

This puzzle is all about December fun! Read these clues to fill in the puzzle:

- _____ eve is celebrated on the last evening of the month (2 words)
- first day of _____ is the twenty-first
- has many _____: Christmas, Hanukkah, Las Posadas and Kwanzaa
- birthstone or gemstone is _____
- includes the _____ day of the year
- is the _____ month of the year
- has football, basketball and _____
- birth flower and traditional plant used during the holiday season: _____
- December means _____, because in the ancient Roman calendar December was the tenth month
- the _____ drops

temperature twelfth winter holly
New Year's
holidays hockey
ten
shortest

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
This mini calendar is for you to decorate with your special days! Look at the month of December on a large calendar to make sure you put the dates in the right boxes.						

A Time to Give

'Tis the season to lend a hand and pitch in at toy, food or clothing drives. With all the holidays in the month of December, it is a time to spread the joy that comes with giving. It is a time to be:

Color Key: B = Blue, G = Green

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
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59						60				61		
62						63				64		

THEME: HOLIDAY MOVIES

ACROSS

- Big ____ at 7-Eleven
- Not counterfeit
- Largest continent
- Field worker
- Eagle's nest
- Shade-loving plant
- River in Bohemia
- Choice or delicious dish
- "Vince Vaughn's title role, 2007
- Research facil.
- "Colorful" announcement
- Humor magazine
- Sherlock Holmes' esteemed friend
- Wedge-shaped
- "Fat chance!"
- Ancient liturgical hymn
- Jet black
- Like Bushmills' whiskey
- **Jingle ____ the Way," 1996
- Speak like Pericles
- Cleopatra's necklace
- They're often bolt action
- Tucker of "Modern Family"
- Football play, pl
- "Nicholas Cage's "The ____ Man," 2000
- Egg cells
- "The Metamorphosis" author
- Nursery rhyme old woman's home
- "Kevin McCallister's story, 1990
- Opposite end of alpha
- "It's beginning to look ____ like Christmas..."
- Like desert climate
- Apple leftovers
- Container weight
- "Trappd in Paradise" with Jon Lovitz and ____ Carvey
- Matured
- "C" ____ la vie!"
- Big Bang's original matter

DOWN

- Fishing pole
- Olympic castaway?
- Pre-euro money
- Bamboo forest dwellers
- *Like Express to the North Pole
- Overthrow by argument
- Miners' bounty, pl.
- *Clarice, e.g.
- Spans of time
- Not a word?
- Type of Christmas lights
- Helen in France
- Type of deadly flu
- Lam or serge
- " ____'s the word"
- *Like Bing Crosby's Christmas
- Packers' quarterback
- Like Hitler's Reich
- Reject
- Olden day calculators
- The whole amount
- *Henry F. Potter in "It's a Wonderful Life," e.g.
- Oration station
- *Will Ferrell's 2003 role
- *Based on "A Christmas Carol," 1988
- Port city in Japan
- Ribonucleic acid
- Affected or pretentious
- Part of eye containing iris, pl.
- Unwellness
- Trees producing caffeine-contain-ing nuts
- Like a duel in France, usually
- Smoke plus fog
- At this point
- Antonym of love
- Unwritten exam
- Number of baseball fielders
- Dutch cheese
- Edible tuber

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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.

THE RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES

CLASSIFIED

878-4017

LEGAL NOTICES

RIO BLANCO COUNTY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE PUBLICATION LIST OCTOBER 31, 2017

FUND: GENERAL

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, PRCH SVCS, 160.74
HAPPY HOLIDAYS, PRCH SVCS, 424.80
RANGELY INSURANCE, AP INSRNC, 3,928.00
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, PRCH SVCS, 656.70
RBC SHERIFF'S DEPT, PETTY CASH, 200.00
SOLANY, CNTRCT SVCS, 12,753.72
ALSCO, PRCH SVCS, 1,021.37
AMAZON, SPPLY, 581.73
AMERICAN INSTITUTIONAL, SPPLY, 327.79
ANIXTER, PARTS, 61.20
APCO INTERNATIONAL, PRCH SVCS, 331.00
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 398.77
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 247.41
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 459.79
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 69.61
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 110.74
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 128.73
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 1,319.42
BADGEandWALLET, PRCH SVCS, 203.00
BADGER DAYLIGHTING, PRCH SVCS, 1,250.00
BETTER CITY, REDII/UTA DOLA, 2,316.04
BOYKO, SPPLY, 782.80
BUSINESS & LLEAGAL RES, SUBSCRPT, 4,988.00
CENTURYLINK, PRCH SVCS, 671.88
CENTURYLINK, PRCH SVCS, 453.55
CENTURYLINK LD, LNG DISTNC SVCS, 397.53
CENTURYLINK-LAND, PRCH SVCS, 587.61
CHAPPPELL, CLINT, PLNG CMMSN, 50.00
CMI, RESTRICTD EOPMT, 1,865.00
CNCC, CNTRCT SVCS, 2,500.00
CBI, PRCH SVCS, 660.00
COLORADO FIBER, INTRNET SVCS, 4,069.00
COLORADO, STATE OF, PRCH SVCS, 202.87
COMPASSCOM, SPPLY, 540.00
COMSEARCH, PRCH SVCS, 420.00
COULTER AVIATION, PRCH SVCS, 174.67
CTY SHERIFF'S OF CO, TRNNG/DEV, 538.00
CRITTERS R US, PRCH SVCS, 65.00
CSU EXTENSION, EXTN DRCTR, 3,325.00
DAY, TRAVIS, PLNG CMMSN, 50.00
DELUXE, SPPLY, 178.40
DA OFFICE, PRCH SVCS, 19,460.58
DOMAS, THELMA, ELEC JDG, 130.00
ARY, MARLYN L., ELEC JDG, 175.00
BYERS, BEVERLY M., ELEC JDG, 95.00
DEARMAN, JOY F, ELEC JDG, 95.00
FRAZIER, DEBRA, ELEC JDG, 130.00
HAZELBUSH, DALEEN, ELEC JDG, 95.00
KENDALL, MARLENE, ELEC JDG, 95.00
STEWART, SHEILA, ELEC JDG, 125.00
EMLAB P&K, SPPLY, 320.90
EXTENSION PROGRAM, JUDGE SVCS, 467.77
EXTREME POWER SPORTS, S&R, 649.95
FASTTRACK COMM, LANDLINE PHN, 665.87
FIRST ADVANTAGE OCCUPT, PRCH SVCS, 147.04
GALL'S, UNFRM, 225.97
GOVCONNECTION, SPPLY, 430.67
GVMT FORMS & SUPPLY, SPPLY, 672.38
GRAYBAR ELEC, SPPLY, 4,437.01
HOWARD TECHNOLOGY, SPPLY, 1,312.00
HYPERTEC USA, SPPLY, 838.54
INSIGHT PUBLIC SECTOR, PRCH SVCS, 14,817.60
JEAN'S PRINTING, SPPLY, 246.19
KENDALL, MARLENE, PRCH SVCS, 64.20
MELISSA KINDT, S&R, 110.00
KINSCO, UNFRM, 49.99
LITTLE-MYERS, SHERYL M, PLNG CMMSN, 50.00
LOVE, VIRGINIA L., PLNG CMMSN, 50.00
MA FAMILIA, PRCH SVCS, 122.80
MEEKER AIRPORT, CNTRCT SVCS, 3,500.00
MEEKER AUTO, SPPLY, 27.01
MEEKER DRUGS, SPPLY, 31.72
MGM, S&R, 6.39
MEEKER SAND & GRAVEL, PRCH SVCS, 381.00
MEEKER SANITATION, UTL, 1,310.00
MEEKER, TOWN OF, UTL, 652.45
MICRO PLASTICS, PRCH SVCS, 86.25

LEGAL NOTICES

MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH, SPPLY, 186.21
MOON LAKE ELEC, UTL, 2,777.70
MVB-VISA, PRCH SVCS, 11,486.65
NATL SHERIFF'S ASSO, PRCH SVCS, 60.00
NICHOLS STORE, FOOD SPPLY, 1,115.63
NIELSEN, TREVOR, PRCH SVCS, 9.00
NORMAN, ADAIR, PLNG CMMSN, 50.00
OLSZEWSKI, MASSIH & MA, PRCH SVCS, 447.75
PHIL VAUGHAN CONST, CNTRCT SVCS, 11,074.60
PMC, PRCH SVCS, 371.50
PITNEY BOWES, PRCH SVCS, 666.73
QUILL, SPPLY, 56.12
RANGELY, TOWN OF, UTL, 1,584.48
RANGELY TRASH, UTL, 893.50
RNGLY TRUE VALUE, SPPLY, 573.69
RESPOND FIRST AID, SPPLY, 47.47
RB HERALD TIME, PRCH SVCS, 1,233.13
SUMUELSON, SPPLY, 31.45
SIRCHIE FINGER PRINT, RESTRICTD EOPMT, 142.40
STAPLES, SPPLY, 1,410.00
STRATA, UTL, 1,046.40
TELEWEST, INMT PHN, 630.76
TURNKEY CORRECTIONS, SPPLY, 5.51
TYLER TECH, PRCH SVCS, 16,286.54
UNION, PRCH SVCS, 523.09
VALLEY HRDWR, SPPLY, 1,196.36
VALUE WEST, PRCH SVCS, 2,260.00
WATTS, FOOD SPPLY, 2,540.94
WR AGGREGATES, SPPLY, 226.50
WR DIST, SPPLY, 356.25
WREA, UTL, 11,758.29
WR MARKET, SPPLY, 46.44
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 36,073.47
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 52,296.64
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 11,478.49
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 36,631.07
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 124633.42
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTR, WAGE ASNMT, 491.69
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTR, WAGE ASNMT, 31.08
GENERAL FUND TOTAL, 434,275.10

FUND: CAPITAL

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

STAPLES, MNTNC, 2,792.25
CAPITAL FUND TOTAL, 2,792.25

FUND: ROAD & BRIDGE

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

MEEKER, TOWN OF, AP MNCP, 658.72
RANGELY, TOWN OF, AP MNCP, 540.70
ALSCO, PRCH SVCS, 129.22
CENTURYLINK, PRCH SVCS, 113.84
CENTURYLINK-LAND, PRCH SVCS, 156.99
ELAM CONST, ASPHALT, 3,106.56
FRONTIER PAVING, ASPHALT, 142,010.10
GMCO CORP, MTRL, 8,086.86
HDR, INC, CR 73 BRDG, 998.49
HONNEN EQUIP, MISC EXPNC, 400.00
MEEKER AUTO, SPPLY, 16.99
MGM, MTRL, 704.44
NEWMAN SIGNS, SIGN MTRL, 1,718.61
NICHOLS STORE, SPPLY, 389.00
OFFICE DEPOT, SPPLY, 147.88
PITNEY BOWES, PRCH SVCS, 19.46
RNGLY TRUE VALUE, SPPLY, 128.95
REDI SVCS, PRCH SVCS, 260.00
RB HERALD TIME, PRCH SVCS, 111.84
SAFETY AND CONST, SPPLY, 364.29
SCHMUESER GORDON MEYER, PRCH SVCS, 2,840.00
SNYDER & COUNTS, MTRL, 1,114.22
STRIFE-A-LOT, PRCH SVCS, 1,542.00
UNION, PRCH SVCS, 314.22
UNIVERSITY/COLO, TRNNG/DEV, 150.00
VALLEY HRDWR, SPPLY, 37.98
WAGNER EQUIP, MISC EXPNC, 6,370.00
WENDLL'S, TRNNG/DEV, 240.00
WESTERN SLOPE PAL, PRCH SVCS, 3,900.00
WESTWATER ENG, PRCH SVCS, 1,801.90
WREA, UTL, 109.63
YEH & ASSOC, PRCH SVCS, 1,478.60

LEGAL NOTICES

US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 13,129.20
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 20,126.55
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 4,438.32
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 18211.84
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 52306.75
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND TOTAL, 288,174.15

FUND: PUBLIC HEALTH

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

CENTURYLINK-LAND, PRCH SVCS, 114.35
DILLON, MARY, PRCH SVCS, 97.37
DRAKE, JULIE, PRCH SVCS, 96.30
GLOBALSTAR, PRCH SVCS, 75.32
METROPOLITAN PATH, PRCH SVCS, 100.00
MOORE MED, SPPLY, 446.60
MVB-VISA, PRCH SVCS, 1,848.08
PMC, PRCH SVCS, 150.00
QUILL, SPPLY, 56.83
R & S NORTHEAST, SPPLY, 519.28
STAPLES, SPPLY, 193.29
WR DIST, SPPLY, 21.25
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 1,437.38
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 1854.28
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 444.68
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 696.86
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 2954.7
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, WAGE ASNMT, 200
SOLID WASTE FUND TOTAL, 79,043.23

FUND: DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

CENTURYLINK, PRCH SVCS, 69.07
CO STATE TREAS, UNEMPLYMT, 2,272.00
MVB-VISA, PRCH SVCS, 73.80
PITNEY BOWES, CNTY EXPNC, 9.37
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 6,879.18
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 7,410.04
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 1,869.74
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 2,483.69
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 16299.9
AP PAYMENTS, 14411.36
DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES FUND TOTAL, 51,778.15

FUND: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

GOEDERT CONST, MKR FGND S MTNC, 97,396.64
FIRE TEAM SECURITY, BRDND IMP, 37,128.86
BADGER DAYLIGHTING, BRDND IMP, 5,750.00
DUCEY'S ELEC, BRDND IMP, 400.00
FORTERRA PRECAST, BRDND IMP, 7,010.65
GDA, MA IMPL, 40,745.50
GOEDERT CONST, MKR FGND S MTNC, 115,130.43
GRAYBAR ELEC, BRDND IMP, 997.19
PSI CRANE & RIGGING, BRDND IMP, 2,370.00
FUND: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT, 306,929.27

FUND: USE TAX

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

BARB BOFINGER, TRVL, 96.30
CENTURYLINK, PRCH SVCS, 164.21
CENTURYLINK-LAND, MKR SFHS, 133.00
MOON LAKE ELEC, UTL, 397.60
MORLAN, DEBBIE, PRCH SVCS, 102.95
MVB-VISA, SPPLY, 148.14
NICKSON, ANNALEE, PRCH SVCS, 29.81
PITNEY BOWES, PRCH SVCS, 9.41
RANGE CALL, MKR RNG CALL, 1,000.00
RANGELY, TOWN OF, UTL, 153.08
RANGELY TRASH, UTL, 332.00
RNGLY TRUE VALUE, SPPLY, 93.79
U.S. FOODS, SPPLY, 7,509.98
WATTS, FOOD SPPLY, 350.05
WESTERN IMP, SPPLY, 96.00
WR MARKET, FOOD SPPLY, 204.25
WILLIAMS, TAMRA, PRCH SVCS, 9.00
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 2,001.98
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 3,103.30
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 719.63
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 1934.96
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 8898.84
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTR, WAGE ASNMT, 26.31

LEGAL NOTICES

FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTR, WAGE ASNMT, 807.92
USE TAX FUND TOTAL, 28,322.51

FUND: IMPACT FEES

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

HDR, CR 5 CRDR, 857.76
IMPACT FEES FUND TOTAL, 857.76

FUND: SOLID WASTE

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

ACZ LAB, PRCH SVCS, 125.00
CAROLINA SOFTWARE, PRCH SVCS, 300.00
JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION, CAP OTLY, 64,893.00
MVB-VISA, PRCH SVCS, 43.37
OVERTON RECYCLING, SPPLY, 5,512.20
PITNEY BOWES, PRCH SVCS, 19.67
REDI SRVC, PRCH SVCS, 30.00
SEAMLESS GUTTERS, PRCH SVCS, 350.00
UNION, PRCH SVCS, 53.94
VALLEY HRDWR, SPPLY, 20.12
WR DIST, PRCH SVCS, 15.00
WREA, UTL, 167.02
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 1,363.39
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 1854.28
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 444.68
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 696.86
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 2954.7
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, WAGE ASNMT, 200
SOLID WASTE FUND TOTAL, 79,043.23

FUND: WEED & PEST

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

JULIUS AG, WEED CNTRL, 10,237.50
MVB-VISA, SPPLY, 147.93
VALLEY HRDWR, SPPLY, 112.99
VAN DIEST SUPPLY, CHEM USED, 4,671.45
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 607.95
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 980.64
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 190
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 893.1
WEED & PEST FUND TOTAL, 17,841.56

FUND: FAIRFIELD

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

ATMOS, UTL, 431.27
BOYKO, SPPLY, 4,578.62
CENTURYLINK-LAND, PRCH SVCS, 81.63
CRITTERS R US, PRCH SVCS, 150.00
MEEKER SANITATION, UTL, 35.00
MEEKER, TOWN OF, UTL, 588.00
ROCKY MT GUTTERS, RPRMNT, 3,120.00
SUMUELSON, SPPLY, 92.12
VALLEY HRDWR, SPPLY, 94.64
WEATHERFORD ELEC, PRCH SVCS, 675.82
WESTERN SLOPE SOD, PRCH SVCS, 112.50
WREA, UTL, 1,354.30
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 230.12
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 622.14
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 100.14
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 367.74
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 2064.58
FAIRFIELD FUND TOTAL, 14,698.62

FUND: CENTRAL SERVICES

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

ALL COPY PROD, CNTRCT SVCS, 259.05
MGT OF AMERICA, COST ALLCTN, 4,820.00
PITNEY BOWES, PSTG, 55.30
STAPLES, SPPLY, 2,549.20
XEROX, CNTRCT SVCS, 1,981.72
CENTRAL SERVICES FUND TOTAL, 9,665.27

FUND: FLEET

VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT

A&E TIRE, TIRES, 8,787.60
AIRGAS, SPPLY, 658.90
BEST DEAL SPRINGS, PRTS/ACCS, 93.36
BOYKO, SPPLY, 79.52
CENTURYLINK-LAND, PRCH SVCS, 62.60
COLEMAN, EVAN, PRTS/ACCS, 65.56
COLUMBINE FORD, PRTS/ACCS, 114.98
DUCEY'S ELEC, SPPLY, 45.00
EXTREME POWER SPORTS, CAP OTLY, 11,864.14
GILBARCO, PRCH SVCS, 198.38
GRAINGER, SPPLY, 65.91
HONNEN EQUIP, PRTS/ACCS, 3,222.49

LEGAL NOTICES

KIMBALL MIDWEST, SPPLY, 613.11
MASTER PETROLEUM, DIESEL, 15,208.51
MCCANDLESS TRUCK, PRTS/ACCS, 310.92
MCGUIRE AUTO, PRTS/ACCS, 2,552.54
MEEKER AUTO, SPPLY, 1,603.92
MEEKER COLLISION, PRCH SVCS, 2,790.70
MOON LAKE ELEC, UTL, 42.23
MVB-VISA, GAS, 585.13
NORTHWEST AUTO, PRTS/ACCS, 1,064.12
OFFICE DEPOT, SPPLY, 224.30
POWER EQUIP, PRTS/ACCS, 2,269.13
RANGELY AUTO, PRTS/ACCS, 2,411.41
SUMUELSON, PRTS/ACCS, 9.37
SCHAEFFER MFG, DIESEL, 1,362.73
SEVERSON SUPPLY, PRTS/ACCS, 60.04
SNAP ON TOOLS, PRCH SVCS, 1,299.00
SYN-TECH SYS, PRCH SVCS, 825.00
TRANSWEST TRUCKS, PRTS/ACCS, 4,423.96
UNITED SUPPLY, PRTS/ACCS, 148.55
VALLEY HRDWR, SPPLY, 366.31
WAGNER EQUIP, SPPLY, 308.56
WATTS, SPPLY, 31.93
WEAR PARTS & EQUIP, PRTS/ACCS, 14,673.00
WESTERN IMP, PRTS/ACCS, 2,275.92
WR DIST, SPPLY, 92.50
WREA, UTL, 566.66
WIRELESS ADV, PRTS/ACCS, 7,987.90
XCEL ENERGY, PRCH SVCS, 60.12
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 2,838.27
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 4,664.89
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 969
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 4188.63
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 11266.02
FLEET FUND TOTAL, 113,352.82

TOTAL: 1,363,284.90
Published: November 30, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

RIO BLANCO COUNTY NOTICE OF FINAL CONTRACTOR SETTLEMENT

2017 RIO BLANCO COUNTY ROAD 5 PAVING NOTICE is hereby given that on the 11th day of December, 2017 at Meeker, Colorado, final settlement will be authorized by the Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners with Frontier Paving of 854 Bedrock Lane, Rifle, CO 81650 for all work done by said CONTRACTOR on the project known as 2017 Rio Blanco County Road 5 Paving Project.

1) Any person, co-partnership, association, or corporation who has an unpaid claim against the said project may at any time, up to and including the date specified in item 2 below, file a VERIFIED STATEMENT of the amount due and unpaid on account of such claims.

2) All such claims shall be filed with Van Pilaud, County Engineer, Rio Blanco County Road & Bridge Department, 570 2nd Street, Meeker, Colorado 81641 on or before December 4, 2017.

3) acFailure on the part of a creditor to file such a statement will relieve Rio Blanco County from any and all liability for such claim.

Dated at Meeker, Colorado this 14th day of November, 2017.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY
BY SHAWN J. BOLTON, CHAIRMAN
First Publication: 11/23/17
Last Publication: 11/30/17
Rio Blanco Herald Times

The White River Conservation District is now accepting Requests for Proposals (RFP) for a range monitoring and weed mapping and spraying project in the Piceance Basin, Rio Blanco County, CO. The project area will be primarily in the Piceance-East Douglas Herd Management Area on Bureau of Land Management lands within the White River Field Office.

Request for Proposal (RFP) packages may be downloaded from the District's website at www.whiterivercd.com.

LEGAL NOTICES

Please submit proposal in a sealed envelope mailed or delivered to White River Conservation District, ATTN: Range Monitoring Project.
Mailing Address: PO Box 837, Meeker, CO 81641
Physical Address: 351 7th Street, Meeker, CO
Proposals must be received in the office on or before December 18, 2017 5:00 p.m.
Please contact Callie Hendrickson at 970-250-6825 or email callie.districts@gmail.com for more information or with any questions.
Any proposal received in the office after the date and time specified above will automatically be disqualified.
Published: November 30, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Supervisors of the Douglas Creek Conservation District for the ensuing year of 2018. That a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the conservation office at 351 7th Street, Meeker, Colorado where same is open for public inspection. That such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of said district at the Water Conservancy Building, Rangely, Colorado on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 6 p.m.

Any interested elector within said Douglas Creek Conservation District may inspect the proposed budget at the conservation office or contact the District Manager at 970-878-5898 in Meeker, Colorado, and file or register any objection thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.

DOUGLAS CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT
By: Callie Hendrickson, Executive Director
Published: November 30, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1 Board of Education Work Session 555 Garfield Street Meeker, CO 81641 December 5, 2017 - 7:00 p.m. Work Session

- Master Plan Report / BEST Grant
- FY17 Audit report and presentation
- Activity bus driver recruitment
- School Board professional development A.CASB events
- Personnel roles and responsibilities
- Curriculum roles and responsibilities
- Risk assessment from auditor
- Items introduced by board members

Published: November 30, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE AS TO BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL

The Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners will be considering a budget supplemental resolution on December 11, 2017, 6:00 p.m. Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse, 555 Main Street, BOCC Meeting Room, Meeker, Colorado. The proposed resolution is for the purpose of appropriating sums of money to defray expenses in excess of amounts budgeted for the 2017 budget year in the following funds: General Fund, Road & Bridge, Public Health Agency Fund, Capital Improvement Plan Fund, Use Tax Fund, Impact Fee Trust Fund and Solid Waste Landfill Fund. The resolution may be viewed at the offices of the County Clerk and Recorder, 555 Main Street, Colorado, and the County Clerk and Recorder Office in the Western Annex Building, 17497 State Highway 64, Rangely, Colorado, and are open for public inspection 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on normal work days.
Publication date: November 30, 2017 & December 7, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

LEGAL NOTICES

**TOWN OF RANGELY
NOTICE OF BUDGET
(Pursuant to 29-1-106, C.R.S.)**

A Public Hearing for the 2018 budget is scheduled December 12, 2017, with the adoption to follow during the regular town council meeting. The public is invited to attend the public hearing. Any interested elector of the Town of Rangely may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objects thereto with the Town of Rangely prior to the time of the final adoption of budget by the Town of Rangely. The Budget is available for inspection at the Municipal Administrative Offices, Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm, 209 E Main, Rangely, Co.
Lisa Piering
Clerk/Treasurer
Publish: November 30 and December 7, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

LEGAL NOTICES

7.Old Business
A.Wastewater Plant and Collections System Assessment
B.Plant Manager Report
C.Office Manager Report
8.Attorney
9.Board
A.Reports
B.Delinquent Accounts
C.Approve Current Bills
D.Rec District Membership for Employees
10.Adjourn
This agenda is subject to change without further notice.
Agenda is posted at the office of the Meeker Sanitation District.
265 8th Street.
Published: November 30, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

LEGAL NOTICES

Janae Stanworth, Budget & Finance Director; Presentation of the proposed 2018 HUTF spending by Dave Morlan, R&B Director; Questions or Comments by the Public; Consideration of Resolution to adopt the Rio Blanco County Budget for 2018; Consideration of Resolution to appropriate sums of money for 2018; Consideration of three resolutions to levy General Property Taxes for 2017, to help defray the cost of County Government, Piceance Creek Pest Control District and Lower White River Pest Control District, all for budget year 2018. Meeting to be recessed. If you need special accommodations please call 970-878-9440 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made. Please check the County's website for updates.
Published: November 30 & December 7, 2017
Rio Blanco Herald Times

ANNOUNCEMENTS

♥♥♥♥♥♥
Shopping locally for Christmas? Check out THE UPSTAIRS GALLERY for jewelry, ceramics & fine handcrafted items. Wed-Sat, 11:00-5:30 592 Main, Meeker. Upstairs 11/30-12/7

Looking for female roommate to help out with rent and utilities and weekends with cooking and laundry. Call for interview. 970-260-8758

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 'Hoot' 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.

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.

ATV, Boat and Snowmobile Owners! You can now renew your Colorado OHV registrations on line at: www.parks.state.co.us

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Mon. 7 p.m., Weds. 7 p.m., Fri. 7 p.m. 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

SAFEHOUSE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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.

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.

MEEKER STREAKER MONTHLY SCHEDULE December 2017

NOTE: Please schedule out-of-town appointments before 2:00 PM and call-in advance to set up all medical appointment rides. 970-878-9368 or Cell# 970-456-7701. Activities are subject to change.
Bus available on dates noted below:
12/1 - Bus in town
12/2 - No bus
12/3 - AM bus
12/4 - Bus in town
12/5 - Bus in town
12/6 - Bus in town
12/7 - Bus in town/Grand Junction
12/8 - Bus in town
12/9 - No bus
12/10 - AM bus
12/11 - Bus in town
12/12 - Bus in town
12/13 - Bus in town
12/14 - Bus in town/Rifle

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

The Rio Blanco Herald Times accepts all major credit cards. You can fax your classified ad or subscription to (970)878-4016 or email to: debbiev@theheraldtimes.com

The Rio Blanco County Department of Human Services will be offering extended hours in Meeker on Monday December 4th from 10am-6pm and in Rangely on Tuesday December 5th from 12-6pm. Appointments are highly encouraged.

If you don't have health insurance, you could be eligible for Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program). If you make too much money for Health First Colorado, the Connect for Health Colorado marketplace can help you learn if you qualify for federal assistance. You can enroll in or change 2018 Marketplace health insurance right now. The 2018 Open Enrollment Period runs from November 1, 2017 to December 15, 2017. This is a shorter enrollment period than previous years, so it's important to act quickly. If you don't act by December 15, you can't get 2018 coverage unless you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. Plans sold during Open Enrollment start January 1, 2018. Please do not wait until the last minute. Please call 970-878-9640 to make an appointment. 11/30

AUCTIONS

Auction
Saturday, December 9th, 10:00 AM
2439 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado
Case International tractor w/loader, 3 pt-mower-sprayer-ditcher-disc-blade-creaser-post hole digger, manure spreader, english harrow, 2 Steiner tractors 1 w/mower-1 w/blade, 16' and 10' feedbed trailers, ladders, plasma-aluminum and wire fated welders, hand & power tools of all kinds, winch, 4-H type fan, camping items, 3 hammocks 1 self swinging, tool boxes, gun safe, 4 guns, ammo, misc wood & iron, misc gated pipe pcs, water pumps, generators, various iron cutouts, misc antiques and household. Owner Ed Irwin. For more info call Steve Claypool, CP Auction Service 970-260-5577
See web www.cpauction.com
*Call us about a sale for you! 11/30-12/7

ELDERCARE SERVICES

Western Slope In Home Care wants to give 20% off of the standard rate to all Private pay clients who sign up and start services now until the end of December. Call today today 970-878-7008 or visit us at www.westernslopehomecare.com 11/22-12/28

GUNS

Savage 110 rifle with AccuTrigger in .223. Synthetic stock, Simmons 3x9 scope, and attached adjustable bipod. \$400 OBO. 970-404-1238

HELP WANTED: GENERAL

Energetic people needed for the front of the house at Ma Famiglia's Restaurant. Full-time and part-time positions available. Positions available immediately for qualified applicants. Pick up and application at 410 Market St. Meeker.

Cyclone Services is looking for hydrovac operators and technicians. Experience preferred but not required. Will train right candidates. Class B CDL required with airbrake and tanker endorsements. Travel will be required. Competitive pay, holiday pay and 401K available. If interested email resume to steven.house@cycloneservicesllc.com, phone 907-903-7371 11/21/30

Utah Gas Corp. Instrumentation & Electrical Technician
Position Summary:
Install, configure, calibrate and troubleshoot instrumentation in support of Field and Plant Operations. Work closely with the technical staff to ensure safe and reliable operation of process instrumentation and control systems. Provide general troubleshooting, power and instrumentation measurements in both field and plant installations. Receive direction from engineering and other maintenance personnel. This position will report to the Production Coordinator and is in Rangely, CO
Qualifications:
• High School Diploma or equivalent certification required. Applied science degree (AAS) in Petroleum Production Operations, Instrumentation and Controls Technology or related preferred.
• Familiarity with RTU/EFM (Fisher ROC, Bristol, AutoPilot, etc.) preferred.
• Familiarity with Communications (MDS, Free Wave and Modems etc.)
• Familiarity with PLC (ScadaPack, Allen Bradley)
• Familiarity with Transmitters (1-5v, 4-20mA, Rosemount, Wika etc.)
• Familiarity with Level Sensors (Electrolab, Rosemount, Oleumtech, Vega etc.)
• Computer literacy in PLC software, databases, and DCS with a preference to Delta V (Emerson) experience.
• Journeyman electrical designation is highly preferred.
• Excellent communication skills both written and verbal.
• Must pass pre-employment drug screen.
• Must possess a valid driver's license.
• Two years of relevant experience working as an I&E Technician or similar role in the industry preferred.
Send Resume to rplummer@utahgascorp.com 11/30-12/7

HOMES: MEEKER

1012 Cleveland. 3 BDR/1 3/4 BA, living room, family room, over 2200 square foot, large fenced, 15,000 square foot corner lot, \$149,900. Call Tom Tucker Realty at 970-231-0411.

HOMES: RANGELY

3 bedroom 1500 square foot home, very liveable and priced right at \$55,000. 970-640-2393.



PLEASE RECYCLE

**WHITE RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 958 / 233 6TH STREET
MEEKER, CO 81641
NOTICE OF 2018 ELECTRIC RATE SCHEDULE**

Please accept this as White River Electric Association's formal notice of its 2018 Rate Schedule. WREA has restructured its Residential, Small Commercial and Irrigation Rates. This restructure increases the monthly WREA Service Fee and decreases the monthly kWh energy charge for the Residential, Commercial and Irrigation rate classes. The Large Commercial Rate Class has been eliminated. The Large Power rate classes were not restructured. Pursuant to Colorado law and the WREA Bylaws, WREA has adopted a complaint procedure for its members. Anyone having a comment or complaint about electric service or rates may file a written complaint with the WREA General Manager (P.O. Box 958, Meeker, CO 81641). Please contact WREA at 970-878-5041 or visit WREA with any comments or questions.

The WREA monthly Service Charge for the **Residential Rate Class** will increase from \$5 to \$15 per month. The kWh energy charge will decrease from \$0.12015/kWh to \$0.113/kWh. This will result in an approximate net \$5.00 per month increase for the average WREA Residential member.

WREA divided the **Small Commercial Rate Class** into Small Commercial Single-Phase and Small Commercial Three-Phase. Members will be placed in the rate class that corresponds with the electric infrastructure that serves the specific meter. Small Commercial Single-Phase Service Charge will increase from \$5 to \$15 per month and Small Commercial Three-Phase will increase from \$5 to \$20 per month. The energy charge for both Small Commercial rate classes will decrease to \$0.113/kWh.

WREA divided the **Irrigation Rate Class** into Irrigation Single-Phase and Irrigation Three-Phase. The Irrigation Single-Phase Service Charge will increase from \$10 to \$15 per month. The Irrigation Three-Phase Service Charge will increase from \$10 to \$20 per month. The energy charge for both Irrigation rate classes will decrease to \$0.113/kWh.

WREA 2018 RATE SCHEDULE

General/Residential Service	Schedule R Rate Restructure	General/Residential Service
Existing Service Charge: \$5.00 Price per kWh \$.12015		Effective 01/01/2018 Service Charge: \$15.00 Price per kWh \$.113
Small Commercial	Schedule SC Rate Restructure	Small Commercial
Existing Service Charge: \$5.00 Price per kWh \$.11461		Effective 01/01/2018 Service Charge Single Phase: \$15.00 Service Charge Three Phase: \$20.00 Price per kWh \$.113
Irrigation Service	Schedule I-1 Rate Restructure	Irrigation Service
Existing Service Charge: \$10.00 Price per kWh \$.12213		Effective 01/01/2018 Service Charge Single Phase: \$15.00 Service Charge Three Phase: \$20.00 Price per kWh \$.113
Large Power - Secondary	LP-S No Change	Large Power – Secondary
		Effective 01/01/2017 Service Charge: \$50.00 Price per kWh \$.10467
Large Power – Primary	LP-P (L3) No Change	Large Power – Primary
		Effective 01/01/2017 Service Charge: \$50.00 Price per kWh \$.05430 Price per kW \$29.75
Large Power – Transmission	LP-Trans (L2) 5-10 MW No Change	Large Power – Transmission
		Effective 01/01/2017 Service Charge \$1,500.00 Price per kWh \$.04386 Price per kW \$23.05
Large Power – Transmission Existing	LP-T (L5) 10-30 MW No Change	Large Power – Transmission
		Effective 01/01/2017 Service Charge \$2,500.00 Price per kWh \$.04222 Price per kW \$23.19
Large Power – Transmission	LP-T – Ind. Power (L6) > 30 MW No Change	Large Power – Transmission
		Effective 01/01/2017 Service Charge \$3,500.00 Price per kWh \$.04211 Price per kW \$20.94
Yard Lighting	YL No Change	Yard Lighting
		Effective 01/01/2017 175w Mercury Vapor \$11.32 100w HPS \$11.32 48w LED \$11.32 400w Mercury Vapor \$25.08 250w HPS \$25.08 110w LED \$25.08

HUNTING

I would like to lease at least 850 acres for the 2018 elk season. Will pay \$18,000 for all seasons. Am bonded and will carry all insurance. Call Cecil Kaufman @ 318-435-5029 11/22-12/21

LANDLOTS

FSBO: 22 acre horse property with RV service and new fence. \$85,000 OBO. 4751 County Rd 7. 580-377-9436

MISCELLANEOUS

ASK ABOUT OUR CNC MACHINING Can't get a metal part? We can make all kinds of parts. We have CNC Machine equipment, lathe and tooling to do the job. Contact Phil at Family Automotive and Machine. (970)878-5606.

MUSIC



PIANO LESSONS

Openings available. \$15/weekly for 1/2 hour lessons. Ages 6 and above. Call or text Laura at 970-930-5621.

RENTALS: MEEKER

STORAGE DEPOT 10x25 unit. 878-4808.

5 bedroom, 2 bath house \$1000 per month plus water/sewer and \$1000 deposit required. Call 970 942-7501 11/8-12/7

WANTED: House to lease in the Meeker area for 2018 hunting season. Call Cecil Kaufman @ 318-435-5029 11/22-12/21

Furnished 2 BDR/1BA includes internet. \$600 per month plus deposit. No pets. Call 970-260-8844 or 970-942-3673

3 BDR Townhouse, W/D, water & sewer paid, \$650 mo + \$750 damage deposit. Avail 9/10. 970-878-4572

Furnished apartment with all utilities included. \$500 month and \$500 deposit. Call 970-878-4754 11/16-11/30

Clean, quiet, 2 BDR, 1 BA includes washer & dryer. No pets. \$575 per month + deposit. 970-260-8844 or 970-942-3673

Commercial office space available in Hugus Building, downtown Meeker. 878-4138.

CLEAN REMODELED 2BD APARTMENTS, in-house laundry, storage units available, close to shopping and the downtown area & more. \$575 to \$595/month. Western Exposures Realty LLC (970) 878-5877.

Newly renovated, 2 BDR/1.5 BA duplex. All brand new appliances, W/D included, fenced backyard. Water and sewer paid. Covered carport, extra parking. \$725 month/\$825 deposit. For more info call 878-4572 or 970-930-5646



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Caseworker
- Patrol Deputy, Rangely
- Planner I

For details and a Rio Blanco County application, please go to www.rbc.us or Rio Blanco County HR at 555 Main St., Meeker, CO. 970-878-9570.

ADA/EOE

RENTALS: MEEKER

AVAILABLE NOW: retail space in the center of Meeker at 6th and Main in the historic Hugus Building. Includes over 5000 square feet and loading dock in the alley. This former general store has Main Street display, windows, an antique ceiling, freight elevator, built-in cupboards and 1910 era show cases. Call 970-878-4138 for details.

RENTALS: RANGELY

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



Meeker School District Employment Opportunities

- School Bus Driver

ADA/EOE

Subject to change at any time! For details and an application, please visit our website at Meeker.k12.co.us or Meeker School District Administration at 555 Garfield St., Meeker, CO

970-878-9040

PIONEERS MEDICAL CENTER

A community oriented medical center with high patient standards, is hiring for the following positions:

PRN:

- Patient Care Technician
- RN - Acute/ED
- RN or LPN - LTC
- Certified Nursing Assistant - LTC
- Food Service Tech

FULL-TIME: (eligible for benefits):

- LPN or RN - Wing LTC
- RN - Acute/ED - Nights
- RN - Acute/ED - Days
- Laboratory MLT or MLS
- Occupational Therapist

Submit Resume and/or Application to: Pioneers Medical Center, HR, 100 Pioneers Medical Center Dr., Meeker, Colo., 81641 Visit our Website at: www.pioneershospital.org

Pioneers Medical Center
Phone: (970) 898-0247 Fax: (970) 898-2249
100 Pioneers Medical Center Dr., Meeker, CO 81641
Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District



School Bus Route/Activity/Substitute Driver

Meeker School District Re-1 is seeking individuals to drive a school bus route and activity trips beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. While it is preferred that applicants hold a current CDL Class B P2S license, the district will train approved applicants in obtaining this license.

For job requirements, details and an application, please visit Meeker.k12.co.us or Meeker School District Administration, 555 Garfield St., Meeker, CO.

Review of applications will begin immediately and close when position is filled.

ADA/EOE

970-878-9040

RENTALS: RANGELY

Shop for rent. Call 970-629-3605.

3 BDR, 1 BA, 1500 sq.ft., 2 car garage, large fenced back yard, extra storage available. 1 year lease, deposit, references., \$800 per month. 970-640-2393

SILVER SAGE RV PARK (970)675-2259

RV Spaces for rent. Managers: Dana & Debbie Hanvey (970)675-2259 (970)216-0138



NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Building Board of Appeals
- Board of Health

If you are interested in serving on one of these boards please visit the Rio Blanco County website under the Employment Tab for further information. www.rbc.us.

SNOWMOBILES

2004 Yamaha SX Viper custom-built by Troy Johnson. Tons of extras! \$2900 negotiable. 970-220-2228.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Full Time Positions
- Guest Services Representative
- Benefits
- Part Time Positions
- Guest Services Representative(s)
- Work up to 30 hours/week

For details and an application, go to www.meekerrcdistrict.com or 101 Ute Road, Meeker CO. 970-878-7417

EOE

DID YOU KNOW?

81% of Colorado residents accessed newspaper media in the last month? That's 13 percent higher than the national average.

71% Accessed newspaper media in the last week? That's 8 percent higher than the national average

6 OUT OF 10 Accessed newspaper in the last 24 hours.

Colorado newspaper readers On average make 15% more than non-readers, better educated and plan to spend more money than non-readers. By a more than 2:1 ratio in almost all categories, newspaper reader are engaged in their communities.

Newspaper media is No. 1 in trust for local shopping information

15% Points higher than local television

20% Points higher than radio

22% Points higher than social media



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#BeInTheKnow • Source: Pulse Research

SYNC2 Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network

To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call SYNC2 Media at 303-571-5117.

HELP WANTED

MONTANA ROCKIES AT THEIR BEST. Community newspaper for sale in gorgeous recreational area. Bottom line increasing. Exceptional reputation for serving area. Inquiries: www.johnmaslanik-murphy.com or 406-926-1996 or j.maslanik@murphybusiness.com

WANTED

LEREY CO-OP ASSOCIATION, Leroy, Kansas seeking qualified CEO/General Manager. Successful three location full service co-op, sales of \$50+ million. Successful agricultural business management, financial experience desired. Job link: <https://tinyurl.com/ydhtzocm> David.Lemmon@chsinc.com 320-219-0270

WANTED

Cash for Mineral Rights Free, no-risk, cash offer. Contact us with the details: Call: 720-988-5617 Write: Minerals, PO BOX 3668, Littleton, CO 80161 Email: opportunity@ecmresourcesinc.com

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Buy a 25-word statewide classified line ad in newspapers across the state of Colorado for just \$300 per week. Ask about our frequency discounts! Contact your newspaper or call SYNC2 Media, 303-571-5117

PUZZLE ANSWERS

9	4	1	2	8	3	6	7	5
7	6	3	9	1	5	2	4	8
5	2	8	7	6	4	1	9	3
4	5	2	1	3	8	9	6	7
3	7	6	5	4	9	8	1	2
1	8	9	6	2	7	3	5	4
8	3	7	4	9	6	5	2	1
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a look at **NEWSPAPER READERS**



community minded

In all "community related" questions, readers rated that they were "very interested" or "interested" in local news more than non-readers by a wide margin.

EDUCATED
Nearly 1 in 4 have post-graduate degrees, and 80 percent have been in college

WEALTHIER
On average, newspaper readers make 15 percent more than non-readers

AREAS OF GREATEST INTEREST

- Breaking news • Community news
- Crime news • Political news
- Business news • Entertainment news
- School news • Sports news



Serving Rio Blanco County
Since 1885

MORE ACTIVE

33% More likely to go skiing

52% More likely to attend a college sporting event

36% More likely to attend a pro sporting event

20% More likely to go biking

16% More likely to go hiking

SPEND MORE \$

135% More likely to buy a new car than a non-reader

31% More likely to buy a used car than a non-reader

76% More likely to remodel home than a non-reader

28% More likely to buy furniture than a non-reader

LIKE TO TRAVEL/DINE

57% Go out to eat at least once a week

37% Go out to eat multiple times per week

57% More likely to travel for vacations in-state

132% More likely to travel for vacations in the Rocky Mountains

Source: Pulse Research, 2017, Colorado

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970.878.4017 theheraldtimes.com 970.675.5033

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In-County Subscription Rates

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- One year - \$40 **SAVE 20%**
- SAVE 26%** Two years - \$75

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- 6 months - \$35
- One year - \$60
- 2 Years - \$ 110

Call: 970.878.4017 or 970.675.5033

Email: debbie@theheraldtimes.com

Sign up online:

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REAL ESTATE CORNER



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Cindy Welle, Broker - Owner
Wendy Garrett, Broker Assoc.

643 Main Street • P.O. Box 1384
Meeker, CO 81641

- NEW LISTING! 1157 Garfield - Cute home on beautiful 22,500 SF site, trees & privacy... \$96,500
- 375 3rd Street - Ranch style home with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on corner lot... \$162,500
- 1135 Michael Circle - Newer home, views and close to walking trails and park - 2 story home, open concept living. Move in ready... \$239,500

BROOKS REALTY
889 Main St., Meeker, Colorado
www.brooksrealty.com
(970)878-5858
Laurie J. Brooks
Owner/Broker

- NEW! 1032 Jennifer Dr. - Opportunities are unlimited for this great building with lots of paved parking! Over 4800 sq. ft. of interior space, fenced yard on south side, handicap accessible state of the art fire suppression system. Trees, landscaped and ready for your new business. \$460,000.
- NEW! 18,775 SF Lot on Robert Street - Great view and building site with plenty of room to build your dream home. Water and sewer taps in place! \$38,000.
- White River Ranch Estates on Hwy. 64 Lot 12 - 35 acres with White River frontage, private fishing area, 3 phase electrical in place. \$225,000.
- 1057 Sage Ct. - Fresh paint throughout, 3 BD/2 bath home. \$149,500. SOLD!

Real-Tea Roundtable
1st Monday of the month
7:30 a.m., Wendli's

Ranches & Recreational
Moffat County - Elk Springs 1,280 +/- Acres. Game Unit 10. \$960,000

Meeker
13247 Rd. 8 - 3BD/2BA Home, 2 Carages, Horse Property. \$399,000
1163 Rd. 53 - 4BD/3BA Cabin in Morapos Creek. **REDUCED!** \$395,000
585 Cleveland St. - 3,806 SQFT, 3 BD/3.5 BA, private yard. \$389,000
NEW! 8617 Rd. 8 - 4BD/2BA Log Home on 2.85 acres up the White River. \$379,000.
76 Meath Dr. - **SOLD!**
NEW! 830 Main St. - **UNDER CONTRACT!**
1164 Hill St. - 3BD/2BA, Central Air, Garage, Fenced Yard. \$212,000
1021 Main St. - **UNDER CONTRACT!**
217 County Rd. 75 - 4BD/1BA Vacation Cabin. \$187,000
NEW! 533 Cleveland - 4BD/2BA Home with Fenced Yard. \$175,000.
1140 Cleveland St. - 100% Remodeled Duplex, 2BD/2BA per Side. \$\$\$ Producer! \$170,000
1058 Sage Ct. - Completely Remodeled Cottage 1BD, 1BA, Large Lot. **REDUCED!** \$129,000

Craig
Yoleta Lane - East of Craig, 40 Acres. **REDUCED!** \$77,000

Vacant Land
17BD E. Market St. - 7.46 Vacant Acres at the Intersection of HWY 13 & Rd 8. \$249,000
345 Cleveland St. - 2.28 Acres. Potential for 12 Building Lots. \$216,000.
1105 & 1107 Market St. - Large Commercial Lot. \$149,900
County Rd. 10 - **SOLD!**

Steamboat Sotheby's International Realty
Suzan Pelloni
970.623.2900 | YourMeekerExpert@gmail.com
ASSISTING BUYERS & SELLERS IN ALL PRICE RANGES THROUGHOUT RIO BLANCO COUNTY

WESTERN EXPOSURES REALTY, LLC
PRICE REDUCED & NEW EXTERIOR PAINT!
COME AND SEE
73209 Hwy 64.
WWW.WESTERNEXPOSURES.COM

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY
NEW 482 12th St. - 2BD/1.5BA, two-story townhouse with open living room and kitchen floor plan. **\$47,500**
NEW 780 5th St. - Spacious corner lot with 4BD/2BA home. Two separate living spaces, complete with their own kitchens. Live in one, rent the other, or just rent both. **\$158,000**
NEW 880 Main St. - One-and-a-half story, 4BD/2BA home with oversized 9,500 sq ft lot. A small cabin sits just off the alley and is a great rental. **\$155,000**
NEW 264 9th St. - Well-kept mobile home, 2BD/1BA, on its own 5,500 sq ft lot. Fenced back yard with mature trees. **\$43,000**
NEW 1010 Hill St. - This 2BD/1BA, 736 sq ft home on a corner lot is the perfect rental or starter home. An additional 240 sq ft apartment sits behind the home with St. access. **\$139,000**
NEW 873 Market St. - Own Market St. frontage and enjoy this 3BD/1BA, 1,202 sq ft home. A 525 sq ft utility shed sits behind the home with alley access. **\$119,000**
NEW 893 Market St. - This 2BD/1BA, 1,504 sq ft home, on a corner lot, with Market St. frontage has immense potential. Live in the home or rent it out as an income property. **\$127,000**
959 Garfield St. - Wonderfully kept 4BD/2.5BA home, detached garage, workshop and lots of storage. 1 yr. Home Warranty Available. **Price Reduced: \$252,500**
855 5th St. - Wonderful view over town from this 5BD/2BA home. New roof, siding, windows and flooring. **\$200,000**
767 12th St. - Two-story, 2BD/1.5BA Townhouse, well-kept and tastefully remodeled. Great fenced area for children or pets. **\$70,000**
FAST SALE 945 & 975 Cleveland St. - Two older homes, great lot space and potential. **Price Reduced: \$45,000**

RURAL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY
NEW 1083 Boulder Dr. - Craig - Beautiful Log Cabin in Wilderness Ranches. Newer cabin furnished. Log furniture. Turn key. Includes a transport trailer for your elk, deer, and antelope. Very nice! **\$169,900**
73209 Hwy 64 - 11.02 acres in Lions Canyon. This 5BD/2BA home includes a heated shop, multiple outbuildings, a domestic well, full surveillance security, and a large home safe. **Price Reduced: \$365,000**
NEW 55775 Hwy. 318, Maybell, CO - 3BD/2.75BA home with 8.68 ac and Yampa River frontage. Large barn and multiple outbuildings. **\$122,000 UNDER CONTRACT!**
1400 Flag Creek Dr. - Stunning 4BD/2.5BA home moments from town. Pole barn, acreage and outstanding views. **Price Reduced: \$459,900**
346 N. Cross L Dr. - Adorable 3BD/2BA stucco home on 3 acres. Only minutes from town, miles of views. **\$269,900 UNDER CONTRACT!**

RANCH PROPERTY
NEW 281+ Acre Ranch - This 281+ acre property features a solar-powered well and adjoins BLM on two sides. Perfect for building a dream home or cabin getaway. Enjoy the wildlife, hunting and outdoor recreation this property provides. The possibilities are endless. Dry land grazing. **\$422,000**
River Ranch on Yampa: 63322 W Hwy. 40 - 128.68 acres with over a mile of Yampa River frontage, senior water rights, partial mineral rights, and a beautiful 5BD/4BA home, plus a 2,160 sq ft metal barn. **Price Reduced from \$1,250,000 to \$998,000**
Baker's Peak Vista Ranch: 211.3 County Road 70, Craig - 506+ acres with 10cfs water rights, gravity flow. Several outbuildings and a domestic well in place. BLM and State land on three sides. Elk, mule deer and pronghorn. **\$1,300,000**

VACANT LAND
2 lots in Sage Hills - Two beautiful view lots in prestigious Sage Hills. Very motivated sellers. **\$30,000 each or both \$58,000**
10 Acre Lot on Strawberry Patch Rd. - Ponds, fenced and electricity. Really clean property in the country with great potential. **\$68,500**
Two 5 Acre Lots on Strawberry Patch Rd. - Ponds, fenced and electricity. Really nice. **\$56,500 each**
NEW 100 Acres off Hwy. 13, south of Mile Marker 24 with great views for **\$55,000**
2.25 Acres off Hwy. 13, north of Meeker - Nice building location, close to town! **\$45,000**
2 Lots on Silver Sage Rd. - Sage Hills. **\$45,000 for both.**
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
NEW 206 Brontosaurus (Hwy 40), Dinosaur, CO - **\$155,000**
NEW 60240 W Hwy. 40, Maybell - Complete wild game processing facility. Business and real estate offered together. **\$280,000**

Four Springs Ranch: 60401 US Hwy 40 - 343.98+ acres with Yampa River frontage, water rights, and beautiful pastures. Ranch house, barn, equipment shed, numerous buildings and corrals. Great Ranch set-up in the perfect location. **\$1,250,000**

NEW 335 6th St. - Don't miss this chance to own a part of downtown Meeker. This 4,492.63 sq ft multipurpose building is subject to automotive and foot traffic year around. Great location for any business or office. **\$310,000**

NEW 1120 Cleveland St. - Apartment building, six units, 0.51-acre lot in town. Units are 2BD/1BA ea with access to the shared laundry facility. Street and area parking for tenants. **\$299,500**

NEW 1020 Hill St. - Triple built in 2005. Each unit features 2BD/1.5BA, kitchen, and laundry hookups. Street and alley parking. Great chance to invest in this income producing property. **\$277,000**

73544 Hwy. 64 - This 15,840 sq ft building on 2.4 acres is absolutely a bargain. Just 2 miles west of Meeker. **\$150,000.**

Withdrawn from market.
NEW 101 E. Market St. - Excellent location in Meeker, Colorado, the Brothers Property offers .43+ acres, paved parking, 3,985 sq ft of well kept building. Trade fixtures not included, but are negotiable. **\$375,000**

Gravel Pit for Sale - WRC Wet Pit is located about 20 miles west of Meeker, containing approximately 110 acres, water rights, and an estimated 1,500,000 tons of gravel ready for extraction. **\$1,500,000**

680 Water St. - Playa del Rio Apartments sits on 4 lots, feature 19 apartment units, 17 storage units, off street parking and park area. Buy before the market booms! **\$950,000**

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To advertise in the Real Estate Corner, email ads@theheraldtimes.com or call 970-878-4017.

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1033 W MARKET ST. All information above is subject to errors, omissions or changes without notice. MEEKER, CO