

Meeker High School EMPTY BOWLS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27TH, 2022

4 to 6 p.m. ~ MHS Lobby before the Rangely/Meeker basketball games

- \$20/bowl with soup, salad and breadstick prepared by the MHS FCCLA
- All proceeds go to local non-profit organizations
- All of these bowls are handmade by the MHS Art Department

Please contact Ben Quinn at ben.quinn@meeker.k12.co.us or at (970)878-9070 ext. 337 for more info.

RIO BLANCO Herald Times

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Three state agencies launch joint audit of Mind Springs

By JENNIFER BROWN
The Colorado Sun

RBC | Three state agencies have launched a joint audit of Mind Springs Health, sending state investigators to review documents and financial records at the nonprofit mental health agency for 10 Western Slope counties.

The organization, one of 17 regional community mental health centers that receive millions of dollars each year in public funding, has been at the forefront of criticism as policymakers look to revamp Colorado's behavioral health safety-net system.

Mind Springs, which serves residents from Summit County to Mesa County, was the subject of a recent Colorado News Collaborative investigation that found local officials — including the Summit County jail

— were ending contracts with the mental health center. Public officials and local residents said the center has failed to help needy people in mental health crisis and that its leadership was not publicly accounting for how it spent tax dollars.

The mental health center gets public funding, mainly from the state Medicaid program, to care for needy people who are covered by Medicaid, are underinsured or lack insurance.

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, which oversees the Medicaid program, confirmed the site review of Mind Springs on Tuesday, acknowledging that it had sent state investigators to Mind Springs' offices in western Colorado. Two other state agencies — the Colorado Department of Human Services and the Colorado Department

of Public Health and Environment — are participating in the audit.

The review will look for signs of fraud, waste and abuse, as well as health and safety standards and financial transparency, according to a joint statement from the three departments.

Mind Springs public relations director Stephanie Keister said the review is “not an investigation.” Instead, she said the center is “collaborating and working closely” with the three state agencies to “develop opportunities to enhance care” in the community.

“We’re looking forward to this joint process and the outcomes,” she said, via email.

The “joint site review” comes after community complaints about Mind Springs reached the state level, according to the

► See **MIND SPRINGS**, [Page 6A](#)

DERBY DAY ...



Rylan Grimes (left) and Noah Hanberg (above) had fastest sleds at ERBM's annual cardboard derby.

ERBM COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

Dallas Mount of Ranch Management Consultants will be featured during CNCC's Ranching for Profit seminar on Jan. 28.

these difficult times. Dallas will share tools to help producers understand what is happening to their business and offer insights on how to effectively plan for economic downturns, and more specifically, drought.

“With the challenges producers face in our current climate, working with consultants like Dallas allows us all to come up with new ideas, or new ways to look at old ideas, to improve our profit margins and sustainability,” said Carrie Olsen, CNCC Agriculture Instructor and local rancher. “Expanding the Animal Science and Agricultural Business programs to the Craig campus will allow us to continue to build on ways to sustain ranching in our local communities.”

Topics to be covered as part of the seminar include

► See **RANCHING**, [Page 7A](#)

Ranching for profit seminar

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

CRAIG | Colorado Northwestern Community College (CNCC) and Moffat County are partnering to hosting a day-long seminar on Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for local ranchers and agriculture producers. The seminar will feature Dallas Mount, owner of Ranch Management Consultants out of Wheatland, Wyoming. Mount is well respected as a leader in helping ranchers improve the profitability and overall health of their agriculture enterprises. This “Ranching for Profit” seminar will focus on the economic leveraging of grazing management with consideration to drought challenges.

According to Dr. Lisa Jones, CNCC President, the opportunity presented itself at an ideal time.

“Just a few weeks ago, we were approached by one of our county commissioners in hopes that we might consider hosting this workshop instead of cancelling it. I sought advice from leaders in and outside the college and received an enthusiastic response of yes. We saw this as a great way to support local agricultural businesses during difficult times and an opportunity to introduce CNCC's Agriculture Business and Rodeo pro-

grams to the Craig community. We also see this as another way for us to invest in Moffat County residents who invest every day in CNCC.”

Drought is one thing northwest Colorado ranchers know all too well. Rio Blanco and Moffat Counties are already experiencing severe and extreme drought conditions. Despite the most recent snowfall, roughly 67% of the state is currently in severe drought or worse (U.S. Drought Monitor). The outlook doesn't appear much better, as the 20-year drought in Colorado continues knocking at the door.

The economic impact that drought has on crop and livestock production is enough to put some producers out of business — learning how to manage and mitigate these challenges is critical for maintaining operations.

“Change is the only constant we can plan for in agriculture”, said Melody Villard, Moffat County Commissioner. “By its very nature, everything we do in production agriculture has little predictability and we think we have become great at quickly adapting to seemingly instant changes in animal behavior, weather, human behavior and more. The reality is, we can do more to ensure our businesses are profitable.”

The Ranching for Profit workshop hopes to help ranchers better navigate

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The weather delivered plenty of fresh white stuff for ERBM Recreation & Park District's annual cardboard derby Saturday, Jan. 8. Fastest sleds by age division were Gannett Sampson, bottom left (ages 3-4), Hudson Hummel (ages 5-7), Rylan Grimes and Noah Hanberg (who was also fastest overall) for the 8-10 age division, Ryan Hanberg (ages 11-13) and Trey King for ages 14 and up. The winner of the family division was the Ragsdale family. More photos at ht1885.com

LUCAS TURNER/CATLIN WALKER PHOTOS

Saturday: 30/20s

Sunday: 30/10s

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COUNTY BEAT

Pharmacy closure causes a stir

By LUCAS TURNER
lucas@ht1885.com

PHARMACY

The closure of Meeker Drugs, the town's only pharmacy, has left many residents wondering where they would get medication. Pioneers Medical Center isn't expected to open their own pharmacy until sometime in the spring, which leaves a months-long gap in service.

Seeking to address the issue until the new pharmacy opens officially, the RBC Sheriff's Office, Public Health, and the Rangely Pharmacy at Rangely District Hospital are developing a plan to collaborate on a temporary solution, especially for the most vulnerable. "There's a need that needs to happen in this community," said Sheriff Anthony Mazzolla during a lengthy work session with the Board of Commissioners Tuesday. "We've got a vulnerable group out there that can't drive to Rangely. We've got end of life patients that need medication," he added.

After a flurry of calls from concerned citizens Public Health Director Alice Harvey sought help in developing a solution. A few meetings later, Commissioner Ty Gates, who was involved in the process, shared info about how said solution would work.

In simple terms, it would create a courier/transportation service as a stop-gap until the community has a new pharmacy. Essentially:

- Rangely District Hospital will fill prescriptions for participating PMC patients
- an RBC deputy will collect, secure and transport the medication back to Meeker
- RBC Public Health will hold medi-

cations for pickup
Commissioner Moyer expressed misgivings about liabilities for the county regarding privacy, among other concerns. "I'm not opposed to it, we just can't do it with our eyes closed," said Moyer. According to representatives from RDH, Colorado's state board of pharmacies has already approved the general plan, which could move forward sometime soon. In the meantime, vulnerable residents will have to continue getting medications from out of town.

JUSTICE CENTER/OJT GRANT

The justice center could become a specialized, multi-purpose training center for first responders, emergency management personnel and others in the future.

While the concept has thus far been discussed only loosely in public meetings, county staff brought it to the foreground this week while discussing a grant application from the state's "Office of Just Transitions" or OJT. Due to some demand for special law enforcement training in the region and state, Sheriff Mazzolla says such a location could generate revenue if marketed correctly. Commissioner Gates added that a training facility would also bring in people to stay in local hotels, eat at restaurants, etc. County staff plan to pursue the OJT grant, which is due in April.

OIL & GAS

RBC Natural Resources director Eddie Smercina shared the latest on oil and gas rulemaking in the state. Regulations coming out of the COGCC and AQCC create additional requirements, like financial assurance, as one example.

Additionally, due to recent studies showing the sage grouse population is "below the 25th percentile," Colorado

Parks and Wildlife is reevaluating habitat areas for all wildlife. According to Smercina, CPW is looking at "new high-priority areas in Rio Blanco County for future maps."

COMMUNICATIONS, AIRPORT

IT and communications could spend slightly less than expected to create a specialized fiber-splicing vehicle for maintenance, repairs and new installations on the county's broadband network. "We have the skills in-house to do the work, we just don't have the equipment," said IT Director Trevor Nielsen who explained that relying on contractors for splicing work causes major delays since all the companies able to do it in the region are usually too busy to do something right away if a line is broken, for example.

There is still some uncertainty about the possibility of a new hangar at Coulter Field in Meeker, and who will ultimately pay to install a new water line in the area. The board plans to meet with potential hangar owners to get more clarification.

REGULAR MEETING

During their regular meeting, the board passed a flurry of procedural, first meeting of the year-type items, like new appointments:

- Ty Gates - appointed Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for 2022, board member for the e911 board and representative for the Northwest Transportation Planning Commission
- Gary Moyer - appointed as RBC Chairman pro-tem for 2022 and representative for AGNC
- Jeff Rector - appointed as County Investment Policy Committee Member
- And reappointments of county employees:
 - Attorney - Donald Steerman

- Budget and Finance Director - Janae Stanworth
- Road & Bridge Director Scott Marsh
- Director of Human Services - Tia Murry

RBC Commissioners also approved dates for this year's county fair, including a County Shoot on July 23 and a Horse Show on July 29 and 30. Fair week is scheduled for August 1-6.

At the end of the meeting, the board went into executive session to discuss threatened or pending litigation

FRACKING WASTEWATER RECYCLING FACILITY

The board approved a limited impact review for Terra Energy Partners (TEP) to build a produced-water recycling facility which would be located "just south of the Enterprise Gas Plant." This means TEP can now move forward on the NEPA process. Natural Resources Director Eddie Smercina said the facility "opens the door for more development" and allows TEP to recycle more effectively, instead of hauling produced water around in lots of trucks.

Depending on geological formation, chemicals used to hydraulically fracture (frack) a well, produced or "flowback" water can contain endocrine-disrupting chemicals, carcinogens and radioactive elements. These contamination factors, along with the significant volumes of water produced by each well every day create costly challenges for operators to ensure safe disposal, hence the justification for elaborate water storage, transportation, treatment and recycling facilities all over the Piceance Basin.

COVID-19 Update: Jan. 11

Special to the Herald Times

- RBC | Total Cases to Date:** 1,489
- Meeker Active:** 58
- Rangely Active:** 29
- Hospitalizations in the last 14 days:** 2
- Total Hospitalized:** 124 (8.3% of total reported cases — statewide rate is 5%)
- Total Deaths:** 12
- Approximate percent of eligible pop-**

ulation vaccinated with at least one dose (now 5 and up):40.6%.

Out of 150 total confirmed breakthrough cases in fully vaccinated individuals, 10 have been hospitalized.

Lab-confirmed presence of the Omicron variant with Increase in community transmission and decrease in hospitalizations. Influenza is also present in Rio Blanco County with no reported hospitalizations.

Wilkie, Phelan named to Dean's List at Chadron

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | Chadron State College in Nebraska has announced that Hannah Wilkie of Rangely and Ryan Phelan of Meeker are among the 341 students who met requirements for the Dean's List for Fall 2021 by earning at least a 3.5 grade point average. To qualify, students must have completed at 45 credit hours, be enrolled in 12 credit hours of coursework, be seeking their first bachelor's degree, and have no incomplete grades during the semester. Hometowns listed reflect the student's preferred home address,

VACCINE CLINICS

Vaccinations for COVID-19 (ages 5 and up) and flu are available now. All insurance is accepted.

COVID-19 vaccines are free of charge.

No appointment is necessary at our walk-in vaccine clinics.

NEW WALK-IN VACCINE CLINIC SCHEDULE

VACCINES IN MEEKER

200 MAIN ST.
Thursdays
12-5:30pm

VACCINES IN RANGELY

101 E. MAIN ST.
Wednesdays
12-5:30pm

BOOSTER DOSES

Booster doses are available in Colorado for anyone over the age of 16, as long as 5 months have passed since initial MRNA series (Pfizer or Moderna), or 2 months since initial Johnson & Johnson dose

1st, 2nd and booster doses of Moderna and Pfizer COVID vaccinations are available at all of our clinics.

OTHER VACCINATIONS

Please call to schedule an appointment for all other vaccines, including shingles, pneumonia, and childhood immunizations. Walk-ins for flu shots are welcome based on nurse availability.

COVID-19 TESTING

Please be advised that testing for COVID-19 is recommended for all symptomatic individuals (please see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html> for list of symptoms), and all individuals who are exposed to a known case. It is advised to test 5 days after your last known exposure, or as soon as possible after you begin to develop symptoms.

Testing is now available without an appointment. Drive up at the following times in Meeker and Rangely.

NEW SCHEDULE BEGINNING JAN. 3RD, 2022

TESTING IN MEEKER

DRIVE-UP, 200 MAIN ST.
Mondays, Wednesdays and
Fridays 10am-11am
Thursdays ONLY 10am-2pm
Rapid tests not available on Thursdays.

TESTING IN RANGELY

DRIVE-UP, 101 E. MAIN ST.
Mondays 1pm-2pm
Wednesdays 10am-2pm
Friday 9-10am
Rapid tests not available on Wednesdays.

NO TESTING JAN. 17

AT-HOME TESTING

Visit <https://covid19.colorado.gov/covid-19-testing-at-home> for info.

TRAVEL TESTING

We offer same day rapid molecular testing for \$45 at Public Health. Please check travel requirements for your specific destination.

RBC COVID-19 UPDATES

RBC COVID STATS

CURRENT CASE COUNTS AND STATISTICS CAN BE FOUND ON THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY DASHBOARD.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [RBC.US/606/COVID-19-UPDATES](https://rbc.us/606/COVID-19-UPDATES)



RBC Department of Public Health & Environment • 970.878.9520 Meeker • 970.878.9525 Rangely
<https://rbc.us/282/Public-Health> • Email: publichealth@rbc.us

NEWS NOTES

Historical Society quarterly meeting

MEEKER | The Rio Blanco County Historical Society will hold its January meeting on Sunday, Jan. 16 at 2 p.m. at the Heritage Culture Center (517 Park). We'll be discussing preservation of historic photographs and documents, renewing memberships and voting on board officers. Chili will be provided. Bring a chili topping, side dish or dessert to share. Call (970) 878-9982 with any questions.

River committee meeting Jan. 19

RBC | The Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) for the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts will be meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 19 at the Weiss Conference Room on the Rangely CNCC Campus. The meeting will run from 6-8 p.m. A virtual link or call-in number will be provided upon request. Please email liz.districts@gmail.com to request a link for the virtual meeting. The PAC will hear presentations from Peter Fleming on In-Stream Flows, Mario Sullivan and Kari Brennan on the results from the Diversion and Riparian Assessments, and vote on the priorities for the Phase III Scope of Work.

River Alliance to discuss mosquito management

MEEKER | The next meeting of the White River Alliance will be held Thursday, Jan. 20 at the VFW in Meeker at 6 p.m. The topic will be healthy mosquito management with guest speaker Jesse Schroeder, pest management director for Moffat County.

Free community dinner Jan. 20

MEEKER | Free community dinner at the V.F.W., 290 Fourth St., on Jan. 20 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Empty Bowls fundraiser Jan. 27

MEEKER | On Thursday, Jan. 27 between 4-6 p.m. (before the Rangely/Meeker basketball games) buy a handmade bowl from the MHS art department with soup, salad and breadstick prepared by the MHS FCCLA students for \$20. All proceeds go to local non-profit organizations. Please contact Ben Quinn at ben.quinn@meeker.k12.co.us or call 970-878-9070 ext. 337 for more information.

Meeker book club

MEEKER | The book club will be reading "Animal Dreams" by Barbara Kingsolver. We will discuss the book on Monday, February 14 at 1 p.m. All are welcome to join in the fun.

Wagon Wheel OHV Club

MEEKER | The next meeting of the Wagon Wheel OHV Club will be March 3 at 7 p.m. at Kilowatt Korner. Board elections will be held in April. Please step up to keep the club alive and get your membership forms in so your vote counts. Credit card payment is an option but checks are preferred. New membership forms are required annually. Email Dave Murray at wapitiarcher@live.com or check the Wagon Wheel OHV Facebook page for more information.



TOYS FOR TOTS ...

This year marks the 20th year that the Meeker High School woodshop students have partnered with Samuelson's True Value, acted as elves and made toys for Santa to give the kindergarten classes at Meeker Elementary School. This program was started by Coley Turner, and continued by Brett Steinacher, and is now in the hands of Zach Clatterbaugh. According to Clatterbaugh, "Toys for Tots has been a great way for the high school students to give back to the elementary students, and many of the high school students who now make the toys remember receiving them when they were in kindergarten."

Over the years some of the toys manufactured include wooden cars, trains, trucks, animals, stick horses, and scooters. You name it, the high school students have built it. It has been a great way for students to learn about the manufacturing process and mass production in addition to working on building their own class projects. Meeker High School hopes to continue this tradition for a long time as there have been many students and families touched during the Christmas season.

COURTESY PHOTO



5.75-6 oz. Food Club Pitted
Black Olives

4 for \$5

GROCERY

- 5 oz. Food Club **CHUNK WHITE CHICKEN** \$1¹⁹
- 4 lb. Food Club **GRANULATED SUGAR** \$1⁹⁹
- 16-18 oz. Don Julio **TORTILLA CHIPS** 2 for \$5
- 32 ct. Wide Awake Single Serve **COFFEE PODS** \$9⁹⁹
- 5 oz. Food Club Solid White **ALBACORE TUNA** \$1⁷⁹
- 15 oz. Food Club **CHILI WITH BEANS** 88¢
- 14.5 oz. Food Club **CHICKEN BROTH** 69¢
- 12-16 oz. Food Club **PASTA** 99¢
- 23.9-24 oz. Food Club **PASTA SAUCE** 2 for \$3
- 16 oz. Food Club **SALAD DRESSING** 2 for \$4
- 6 ct. Sparkle Pick A Size **PAPER TOWELS** \$6⁴⁹

FROZEN

- 2 ct. **HOT POCKETS** \$1⁸⁸
- 16 oz. Ben & Jerry's **ICE CREAM** 2 for \$7
- 12 oz. Food Club Steam Easy or **FROZEN VEGGIES** 99¢
- 48 oz. Food Club **SHERBET** \$2⁷⁹



15.5 oz. Food Club

Canned Beans

77¢

MEAT

- Boneless **PORK TENDERLOIN** \$2⁹⁹/lb.
- Beef **EYE OF ROUND ROAST** \$4⁹⁹/lb.
- 16 oz. Bar-S Jumbo or Bun Length **FRANKS** \$1³⁹
- 12 oz. Food Club Original Hickory **SMOKED BACON** \$3⁹⁹

DAIRY

- 16 oz. Food Club **SOUR CREAM** \$1¹⁹
- 16 oz. Food Club **COTTAGE CHEESE** \$1¹⁹
- 64 oz. Food Club **ORANGE JUICE** \$2²⁹
- 52 oz. Simply **JUICE** \$3⁹⁹
- 5.3 oz. Ratio **YOGURT** 3 for \$4
- 32 oz. Coffee Mate **CREAMER** \$3²⁹
- 32 oz. Food Club Shredded or **BLOCK CHEESE** \$5⁹⁹



5 oz. Food Club

Chunk Light Tuna
In Water or Oil

77¢

PRODUCE

- 6 oz. **BLACKBERRIES** 2 for \$4
- 6 oz. **RASPBERRIES** 2 for \$4
- Ripe **AVOCADOS** 3 for \$5
- Fresh **LIMES** 3 for \$1
- Jalapeno **PEPPERS** 99¢/lb.
- Red Bell **PEPPERS** 89¢
- 3 ct. Romaine **LETTUCE HEARTS** \$2⁹⁹
- Ripe **TOMATOES** \$1²⁹/lb.
- 5 lb. bag **RUSSET POTATOES** 2 for \$5
- 5 lb. bag **RED POTATOES** 2 for \$5
- Fresh **CELERY HEARTS** 2 for \$4
- Russet **BAKER POTATOES** 69¢/lb.
- Zucchini **SQUASH** 99¢/lb.

Large
Grapefruit



99¢/lb.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Free speech

Freedom of speech is not a license to abuse, it is a responsibility. Freedom of speech without any concern for good human behavior would be a disaster for any society.

~ Mahathir Mohamad on the opening of Malaysia's Facebook off

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

It's not "Groundhog Day" (referring to the movie, not the weather forecasting rodent's holiday), but I keep finding myself coming across the same conversation in different settings: What is "freedom of speech"?

The topic tends to come up after someone says something rude, cruel or threatening and someone else calls them out. The offenders usually respond with something to the effect of, "I just tell it like it is," or "I can say whatever I want,

whenever I want, because that's my right to free speech."

It would appear a number of folks missed the high school class on U.S. government where we learned about it being wrong to shout "fire" in a crowded theater.

Let's do a quick refresher: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,



and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The first five words there are crucial: "Congress shall make no law..."

The intent of the First Amendment is to prevent the government from limiting your free expression. You can fly a Confederate flag or burn an American one, stand on the street corner and read from the Bible or the Quran, or put bumper stickers on your car that declare your loathing of the opposing political party, without fear of legal reprisal from the government. That's "protected speech" under the Constitution. Unprotected speech is where that lesson on not yelling "fire" in a crowded theater as a prank comes in. Why can't you do that? Because in the crush to escape, people could be injured or killed. In a civilized society, the citizens don't want to cause harm to one another, physical or otherwise.

A glance or two at the comment section on social media may well leave one wondering if we are now just pretending to be a civilized society, all in the name of free speech.

KAYE'S CORNER

New Year's Resolutions

By KAYE SULLIVAN
Special to the Herald Times

2022, here we are. I've been thinking about choices I plan to make for the year ahead. Frankly, "resolutions" seem a promise, so I'm calling them plans. They're not a firm commitment but more slight re-direction to this year's activities.

At the same time of trying to be resolute, I want to remain adaptable. COVID and the looming spread of variants, intense weather, illness, and all sorts of unexpected conditions could require a change of plans. But hey! If we didn't learn to be flexible in the last two years, now is the time.

Here's the core 2022 game plan:

■ Time management. More pro-active choice of how our time is spent and increased assertiveness for selective use of time and energy. Especially in our short summers, I want to stay on top of visitors, travel, and other commitments. This year I plan to choose them, not them me!

■ Visits with dearly beloved ones. Top of the list is my mother residing in an assisted living facility in Virginia Beach, Virginia. A small window of opportunity seems open while both she and we are fully vaccinated, and her lockdown restrictions have been lifted. Travel plans are underway.

■ Grandkid visits. If your grandchildren live nearby, you just don't know how lucky you are. Ours live 1100 miles away. We will work on another Oregon trip and visit some of our favorite places from last year's trip. (And NO vehicle breakdowns this year!)

■ Continued exercise. We all need at least minimal exercise every day. I will remain faithful to my water aerobics class at the Rec Center and plan to add walks at the high

school, a free program that just started again. Maybe I'll finally ride our exercise bike ... that's just a maybe.

■ Local travel. Colorado is just so beautiful and I will work on camping reservations to nearby spots such as Pearl Lake that fill up quickly. Plenty of outings are easy within a two-hour radius, but early reservations seem necessary in many locations.

■ Continued writing. The weekly writing for "Kaye's Corner" has become a challenging way to clarify my thinking, learn, and sharpen my language expression. Until Niki throws me out or I run out of steam, I will embrace the duty and joy of writing.

■ Gardening and composting. Somehow, I need to integrate my desires to grow veggies with my equally strong wishes to travel during the summer. I will work on simplifying my gardening chores and acquiring a helper.

■ Paperwork cleanup. In the past year, my files, both electronic and paper, have gotten out of control. I will double down to audit, toss, and generally cleanup this boring aspect of life.

■ Downsize. De-clutter. Donate. Toss. Even though it feels I've been doing this constantly for the past few years, we still have too much unused stuff.

■ More fun. Ending on a positive note, I commit to more fun outings with my husband, piano playing for my personal joy, plus ongoing gatherings with friends as COVID permits.

What are your plans for 2022? It's time to renew and refresh. Happy New Year!



Kaye Sullivan

Please join us for
Kathy's RETIREMENT Party
Celebrating 34 years with the Meeker Police Department
Buffalo Hall @ Chippers Downtown
Friday, January 14, 2022
5:00 p.m.

JOIN 4-H!
Remember Enrollment Deadline Is February 1st
Call the Meeker or Rangely office if you need help – Don't Wait until the last minute – Our offices close at 4 p.m.

We want to hear from you!
WREA has retained Inside Information, Inc. to conduct its 2022 Member Survey.
Randomly selected members will receive a postcard in the mail.
If you receive a postcard, please fill out the online survey as directed.
YOUR OPINION COUNTS!
COMPLETE ONLINE
PHONE
QUESTIONS?
Randomly selected members will receive a postcard for our 2022 survey.
Please call WREA with any questions at 970-878-5041.



Larin Crase and Danielle Feola of Chippers are some of the Meeker residents who went above and beyond to help victims of the Marshall Fire.

Thank you, Meeker

By KAYE SULLIVAN
Special to the Herald Times

I think the photo sums up this story. The Marshall Fire recipients of some 70 boxes of donations from Meeker were so grateful, we even got a handmade sign of thanks.

It takes a village or in our case the generosity of a small town who can pull together on literally a moment's notice, spread the word, perform good works, and support our fellow Coloradans.

Via donation coordination at the Methodist Church, a trailer load was delivered by Chippers to a welcoming destination. Additional donations have been packed and will be shipped when we have located another specific destination.

To all of you who are concerned that donations sites are closed (including me), here is my thinking. This is a gathering of compassion. We welcome everyone, including every donation, small or large. We will find recipients for your kind gifts.

This is a Meeker community effort, not just the Methodist Church. Recovering from this tragedy is a long time effort. So, we will keep plugging away, one drip in the bucket at a time.

I don't know about you, but much of the past week watching the images of the fire, listening to the news, and reading about various related events, I just wanted to sit

down and cry. During the past week's collections, I've listened to many people's emotional reactions and connections to the Louisville and Superior communities and it has been a constant reminder that this disaster could be us.

So, we've been doing what we can, cobbling together a donation plan and revising it every day. Other ideas to help are in the works. At this time, these include:

You can donate cash by leaving a check at the Methodist Church, Eighth and Park, c/o of the church and designated for fire victims. Or, you can donate online at meekerumc.org. Our plan is to coordinate these donations with organizations in the Louisville/Superior area who can distribute locally and personally to those in need.

We, meaning a small group of organizers, are looking into other support activities. Please stand by for details. Possibilities include adopting a family so our gifts are directed to specific needs. As displaced people move from temporary shelters to other housing (like FEMA trailers) we will find out if they need furniture, household good, or whatever.

Homemade cards that send messages of "we care about you" and "we're thinking of you" etc. from Meeker, Colorado, is another personal touch that should be easy to do.

The impacted area fire

departments have requested buckets filled with cleaning supplies, shovels, rakes, etc. for those whose houses still stand but are smoke and ash damaged.

We are working on these possibilities so please stand by for efforts to get solidified. Again, I stress these relief efforts will be weeks and months long.

The endeavor so far has included many lessons for all of us. The collection effort is more efficient when goods are clean and clearly labeled. Please don't send junk or items that have passed beyond their useful life. Just be practical and think about what you need if suddenly all your possessions were burned to the ground.

There's a role for everyone. Some folks made phone calls. Some contacted their friends and family on the front range for connections. Others worked the social media networks. Drivers volunteered. My spouse made all our meals and cleaned up so I could donate time at the church. Many helping hands sorted, boxed, and labeled, and moved donated items. Many thanks to all of you.

As a sad footnote, let's remember that fires can start anywhere, any place, and any time of the year. If you don't have a fire evacuation plan, or have not signed for the county emergency notifications, don't wait.

Since 1885
RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES
304 4th Street
P.O. Box 720
Meeker, CO 81641
970-878-4017
ht1885.com

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

coloradopress ASSOCIATION NETWORK
MEMBER
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LOOSE ENDS

Cell phone addiction

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



Dolly Viscardi

“Wait, my hands are full, I can’t talk right now,” the woman said into a cell phone. Leaning over a cart full of groceries, she dropped a couple of boxes of cereal on top of the precarious pile. She still was able to hold her phone and resume her conversation, as she pushed her cart slowly down the center of the aisle. “OK, go on. Now I can talk.”

“Really?” I muttered. I could see from the expressions of the people flanking her on both sides that I was not the only one who remained blocked from making any progress. I quickly turned around. I got a glimpse of the one item that I needed on a shelf at the end of the aisle so I headed back. Although I found the item and checked out, I later shared my annoyance with a few friends. They commiserated and voiced a long list of their own complaints about our cell phone dominated lives. Each story, no matter whether it occurred here in Meeker or happened in another Colorado town, had one element in common: rampant misuse of the cell phone in public.

Most all of us can recount our own harrowing stories from the road. So many people are conducting business in their cars these days, many of us have developed the bad habit of answering the phone immediately when it rings. It doesn’t matter if we have decked out our dashboards in holders and can use digital technology to ensure we are not holding the phones. It appears that even when we have silenced the phone and put it on vibrate, we can’t resist looking down or over. Many drivers within town or city limits are driving one-handed.

These days it seems that the majority of folks are using their phones not only while driving, they seem to be transacting business in public places. Most of us have overheard the apology, “I am sorry, I just have to take this,” followed by an extended conversation in restaurants, grocery stores, doctor’s

offices or banks. Time and again one hears, “Oh, it’s you. What do you need?” or “I called you, thanks for calling me back. I just had a question.” This is followed by a long dialogue.

Unfortunately, this is not someone else’s problem. Years ago, when I took care of grandchildren at least three full days a week, I kept my own phone close at hand. Although I thought I had not developed the unhealthy problem of over-attachment to my cell phone, I had to face the facts recently. As the first group of grandchildren got older, the time required to be available for them changed. I began to be able to plan my daily schedule to include the tasks required for my own life. I put my semi-retirement plan into action. As I got used to using the handy digital calendar that was available on all my devices, those empty spaces filled up fast. Although I was spending less time trying to keep up with my wonderful part-time caregiver’s schedule, I continued to check my devices daily.

I cannot stop not answering the familiar numbers on my phone or checking my voice mail before continuing on my way. Now that I am back to a regular schedule with the second group of grandchildren, I have been instructed to put my phone on vibrate and call back when I am done. I cannot do this. The mother and now the grandmother in me refuses.

When we all started using cell phones as our main form of communication, I was sure that our rural life here would not be affected so drastically. It continues to be a rude awakening for me, as when I try to use the telephone directory to find a number for someone’s landline, that person has gone totally cell phone dependent. Just try it for yourself.

The old Yellow Pages commercial jingle comes to mind, “Let Your Fingers Do The Walking.” I have only one word of advice for those of you who share my cell phone addiction. Don’t let your fingers do any such thing. Let your thumb do the talking and walking!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

WRBM to request mill levy increase in May

Dear Editor:

The Western Rio Blanco Metro Recreation and Park District will need to go for a mill levy increase at the May 2022 election. They have not gone for a mill levy increase for operating expenses since 1996. They have tried to prolong asking the public for additional tax revenue to operate the Recreation and Park District as long as they could, but the tax revenues have dropped over the last 10 years and as a result, they do not get enough tax revenue to cover their current expenses. They have used their reserves to the point where they will have to make drastic cuts and closures to be able to operate with what they currently get from tax revenues and fees.

Their current mill levy of 4 mills is \$994,520 less than it was 10 years ago. It has been dropping all but one year to get to this point. Their expenses have been increasing just like all your expenses have gone up over the last 10 years. They have had to use their reserves to operate. They will be out of reserves in 2023. The Rec District does get money from fees but because their fees are so low, it is minimal additional revenue. They have looked at what raising their fees would bring in and a substantial increase in fees would still not cover the expenses (wages, supplies, repair and maintenance and utilities) they have. The District has made cuts by not replacing more than four full-time people when they left. They start their part-time employees at minimum wage, but even minimum wage has gone up. They have not been able to keep up with what other entities pay their full-time employees in order to keep costs down. Because they have to maintain parks, buildings, golf course and the pool, they have had to replace equipment as it warrants. They do most of their own maintenance.

The Rec District feels they have been very responsible with their money in the past 10 years by cutting cost. They have let other entities go ahead of them with their mill levy increase requests. Some entities have gone a few times, but it has now come to the point that the Rec and Park District can no longer put this off. If they do not do something before 2023, the District could be in a place that they will have to cancel programs, close facilities, and parks. The District is looking to the public, they need the public to tell them what you want them to do for the future.

Their plan is to ask for an additional 4 mills which would bring their mills to 8 mills. This would allow the Rec District to continue to operate and maintain their facilities. We realize this is double, but this is what it takes to operate at this time. If they asked for less than 4 additional mills, they would have to come back to the public in a few years depending on the assessed values and ask for an additional mill levy increase again. If they asked for less than the 4 mills right now, they would have to still increase fees, cut programs, and cut back on facility maintenance which mean longer shutdowns. They feel if they ask for the additional 4 mills now, they can keep fees at a minimum and still provide the services they are providing at this time.

The Rec District provides a lot of free events for the residents of Rangely such as the fireworks, inflatables in the park (three to four times per year), inflatables for school field days, Springfest for the middle school students, Septemberfest activities, Christmasfest activities, cook offs, pie contests, free swim days, Pool Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween activities, free pool time for Swim team to practice, free pool time for school PE classes, discounted admission for CNCC students, Rec Center parties for CNCC students, discounts for employee admission for numerous companies, free Wi-Fi.

The current cost to property owners for the Rec District 4 mills is:

- \$200,000 Home: \$57.60 per year
 - \$1,000,000 Business: \$1,160 per year
 - \$1,000,000 Oil and Gas: \$3,500 per year
- BY INCREASING TO 8 mills for the Rec District your taxes would be:
- \$200,000 Home: \$115.20 per year
 - \$1,000,000 Business: \$2,320 per year
 - \$1,000,000 Oil and Gas: \$7,000 per year

History of mill levy increases for the Rec District is:

- 1990: 2.448 mills
- 1996: 4.000 mills

Last time raised for operating expenses was 25 years ago.

History of admissions fees increase:

	1980	2004
Adult	1.50	2.75
Teen	1.25	2.50
Child	1.00	2.00
Seniors	Free	Free

Since 1980 (41 years ago) the admission prices have increased \$1.25, that equals an increase of \$0.03 per year.

Admission other places:

	Vernal	Meeker	Gypsum
Adult	7.00	7.00	10.00
Teen	5.00	5.00	5.00
Child	5.00	4.00	5.00
Seniors	Free	5.00	7.00

The Rec District feels, because the taxpayers support the Rec District through their property taxes, it did not seem right to charge as much as other places charge.

Listed below are some of the capital projects done over the last 10 years totaling \$1,805,595.59. This can help everyone know what the Rec District has spent the tax revenues and reserves on that has caused them to get to this point:

■ **2011: \$277,565.24**

Copier, 2 trucks, 2 snowplows, roof on Rec Center, pumping system

■ **2012: \$206,899.26**

Computer, 2 lawn mowers, 2 treadmills, 1 elliptical machine, NEOS Wall in Elks Park, picnic tables, hydroseed, fence at ball fields

■ **2013: \$206,894.37**

Extractor, new trees, resurface racquetball floors, driveways and sidewalks and weight room addition

■ **2014: \$299,867.26**

Trailer for inflatables, truck, Hefley irrigation, concrete work and sod, skid steer, compressor, mower, Workman sprayer, 14-person van

■ **2015: \$113,574.87**

4 mowers, spin bikes, inflatables for pool, duck slide, aqua treadmill, motor for water slide

■ **2016: \$253,740.65**

Irrigation at park and camper park, LED lights at Rec Ctr, resurface playground, picnic tables, 5 treadmills, 1 elliptical, replaster hot tub and additional inflatables for pool

■ **2017: \$28,557.70**

Mower, camper park fence, welder

■ **2018: \$68,560.95**

Ball field renovations, RTU units, security system, tennis court fencing

■ **2019: \$141,383.36**

Golf Course Gazebo, pump, replace another pump, boiler repairs

■ **2020: \$176,467.52**

Camper Park Gazebo, boiler repair, seal and caulk pool, new card admission program

■ **2021: \$217,004.61**

Trees, truck, Toro Workman, pool resurface

The Board of Directors, Director Tim Webber and all the employees of the Rec and Park District want to make sure you—the public—know how much they appreciate your support. They know they would not be able to do what they do without all of you. They know these are tough times and they want you to know that this was a tough decision to make. If they could have figured out another way, they would not be coming to the for public for a tax increase. They just do not have any other choice. If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact Tim Webber, Jennifer Noel and Linda Gordon.

IN MAY 2022, PLEASE VOTE “YES” ON THE BALLOT QUESTION FROM THE WESTERN RIO BLANCO METRO RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

THANK YOU

This article is provided by “Committee to vote yes” on Rec Center 2022 mill increase. Western Rio Blanco Metro Recreation and Park District provided the data to the committee.

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WRITERS ON THE RANGE

Alternatives to bigger jails aren't a partisan issue

By **MATT WITT**
Writers on the Range

If you know someone is a Republican or Democrat, then you might assume you know exactly where they stand on whether local jails need to be expanded.

But if recent experience in the rural, southwest Oregon county where I live is any guide, it's not that simple.

The economy in Jackson County is dominated by mostly low-wage jobs in tourism, health care, agriculture and forestry, yielding a median income 24% lower than the national average. Yet the median home price is 9% higher than the national average, and one out of three households pays more than half of what they earn just for housing.

Republicans win every county commissioner election, and last year, those commissioners asked voters to authorize a new jail with three times the capacity of the old one. The local newspaper came out in favor, publishing a three-part series and a positive editorial as well.

But voters in this "red" county said no by nearly 3 to 1. How did this happen?

It happened because a broad-based community group of volunteers convinced voters that lockups weren't the only answer. The group did intensive public outreach, pointing out that a large percentage of what was considered local crime involved mental illness, addiction, homelessness, and poverty — all underlying issues that a larger jail couldn't help.

A study they cited by the independent Vera Institute of Justice examined the experience of 77 counties and found that "larger jails often become overcrowded again because expansion fails to address the root causes of an increased (jail) population."

The coalition even brought in police to make their case. They hosted forums, inviting law enforcement leaders from other counties to talk about how they reduced jail bookings instead of expanding jails. In many cases, they said, mental health professionals or social service workers were more effective and less costly than sending in police.

Tad Larson, the jail commander from Marion County, Oregon, said his county operates mobile crisis intervention teams that connect individuals with counseling services, alcohol and drug treatment, and peer mentor support.

"Less than 3% of calls the crisis teams respond to result in arrests," Larson said, and the county has reduced annual jail bookings by 20 to 25 percent.

A similar program in Lane County, Oregon responds to 24,000 calls per year involving dispute resolution, medical crises, mental illness, substance abuse, or homelessness. The program saves \$15.5

million a year by handling calls that would otherwise go to the police. This reduces arrests and diverts patients from emergency rooms, according to program coordinator Tim Black.

The Real Solutions coalition also pointed out that crisis intervention alternatives are supported by a national group called Right on Crime, which was founded by well-known conservatives such as Newt Gingrich, Grover Norquist and Mike Huckabee.

"Research shows that, especially in regards to low-risk defendants, even brief jail stays can increase the chance of committing another crime in the future," Right on Crime reports.

"When someone who has mental health issues is locked up pretrial it can compound their situation," Right on Crime adds. "The same can be said for people who display signs of substance abuse."

While crisis response programs save money once operating, many communities need seed money and technical assistance to get started. Federal grants totaling \$15 million have been awarded to 20 states, including California, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, and Utah, to help local jurisdictions to plan such programs.

Meanwhile, the Oregon legislature this year set an example by appropriating \$10 million to expand local mobile-crisis programs throughout the state.

In the county where I live, the county commissioners have been silent on this subject since their proposal was soundly defeated. But the voters' decision has prompted discussions among public agencies, nonprofits and community advocates about establishing a crisis intervention system.

"With continued population growth and with new fiscal challenges as a result of Covid-19, it will be particularly important to find cost-effective alternatives to continually building bigger jails," wrote four city councilors from local communities in Jackson County after voters turned down jail expansion. "We hope Jackson County officials have learned those lessons too, and we look forward to working with them on constructive and practical alternatives."

That would be an example, increasingly rare these days, of a community finding a solution that everyone — no matter their political leanings — can support.



Matt Witt is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation in the West. He is a writer and photographer in Talent, Oregon.

GUEST COLUMN

Genealogy 101

By **ED PECK**
Special to the Herald Times

WELCOME TO GENEALOGY 101. Doesn't that sound dry and college like! Lucky for you this course is not graded and you get no credit for it. Almost nobody in your family will care if you succeed. As a matter of fact, if you get good at this, your spouse will soon be tired of listening to you exclaim, Eureka! I found where the Jones family lived in Wales! Oft times such momentous discoveries wake them up at 2 a.m. Get used to being unappreciated for your zeal and passion, at least at 2 a.m.

This series of columns is to give our RBC residents the spark and means to seek out their family tree. If that is something you have always wanted to do, then you have now run out of excuses not to sit down and just do it. Remember, we make time for what is important in our lives.

I am Ed Peck, a recent transplant from the Front Range. I am a Colorado native who drives a pickup with pioneer license plates and a bumper sticker that reads "Driven by a grumpy old man." I grew up in Lafayette, Colorado, which at the time contained 2,000 residents, gravel streets filled with kids on

their bikes and everybody knew your family. I swear the old RBC High School (Admin Building) on Garfield has an auditorium copied from my old high school. Right down to the pipes supporting the balcony. Genealogy has been my hobby since 1992.

This series will teach you how to start your tree simply; how to contact your living relatives and convince them you are worthy enough to receive the family information they hoard like old magazines; find grave sites, obituaries, county records and other resources; to take that information and create a wonderful patchwork quilt of ancestors. I like to compare genealogy to working a puzzle with most of the pieces missing from the box. Sherlock Holmes always had to find his villain with a handful of obscure clues. You are a detective who needs persistence, work ethics, and a little dumb luck to be successful in your quest. It is more an art to be learned, than science.

Ed Peck can be reached through this newspaper and also the White River Museum on Park Ave. He is available for guidance at no cost. Contributions to the museum are encouraged.

MIND SPRINGS: continued

► *Continued from Page 1A*

statement from the three state departments. The audit is intended to produce a list of "opportunities and obligations" for Mind Springs to address, state officials said.

Mind Springs has multiple clinics in its coverage area, which includes Summit, Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Mesa, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco and Routt counties. It also provides mental health services in jails and schools and runs West Springs Hospital in Grand Junction, the only psychiatric hospital on the Western Slope.

Mind Springs CEO and President Sharon Raggio had planned to step down in June but resigned this month following the Colorado News Collaborative investigation.

"With the negative press recently, she felt that by resigning sooner she could allow the organization to

focus on positive change that will truly help our communities, versus the negative rhetoric surrounding her personally," Keister said.

Doug Pattison, the organization's chief financial officer, was named interim CEO following Raggio's resignation. In his first week, he is "focusing on transparency" and has been meeting with local county commissioners and community leaders to provide information about funding sources and services offered by Mind Springs, which offers mental health therapy and addiction counseling.

Colorado's 17 community mental health centers receive \$437 million per year in tax dollars and have come under scrutiny recently from lawmakers and behavioral health officials who have questioned the system's lack of oversight. The centers, now facing severe worker shortages, are serving fewer patients than

they were before the coronavirus pandemic began, a period in which the demand for mental health services has escalated.

In the Mind Springs region, Summit County voters passed a tax measure in 2018 to fund mental health care and an alternative to Mind Springs. Since then, the county has ended three Mind Springs' contracts and is working to end its relationship with Mind Springs.

Summit County hopes to join the new community mental health center in Eagle County, called Eagle Valley Behavioral Health. The center was started by a \$60 million investment from the local nonprofit hospital, Vail Health, because local leaders said Mind Springs was failing to keep up with the community's mental health crisis.

The findings of the joint state review of Mind Springs will be made public when the review is complete, state officials said.

Together We Can Help Our Neighbors with Substance Use Disorder

The substance use problem in our community isn't about "them." It's about us. Societal and biological issues are the root causes. Only together can we start to solve it.

Together we can educate one another about the facts of substance use disorder. Together we can eliminate stigma. Together we can help our neighbors get treatment and recover.

Read about Kristen Corrier's story of substance use and recovery at solvingSUDtogether.org.

All of us are the solution. Together we can.

solvingSUDtogether.org f @

Paid for by the Rural Alliance Addressing Substance Use Disorder Colorado



"Very smart, creative people are in recovery," she said. "There's this image that these people don't have an education or aren't capable of working. But it's not localized to just a certain type of people. It can happen to anybody."

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COURTESY PHOTO

The It's Showtime 4-H livestock club met Sunday, Jan. 9

It's Showtime Livestock Club report

By **HATTIE BRENNAN**
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Hello, my name is Hattie Brennan. This is my third year in 4-H. I am excited to say I am the new reporter for the "It's Showtime" 4-H Club.

We kicked the new year off with a meeting on Sunday, Jan. 9 at 4 p.m. with the pledges led by Cambrey Rogers, Mollee Vroman and Miles Etchart. We did a fun "icebreaker" to get everyone warmed up. Then Tatum Kennedy gave the secretary report, Hayden Shults gave us the treasurer's report. Lastly, Klayton Carol gave us the county council report. Next, we played a game called the compass name game so everyone could know each other better.

We then did demonstrations: Cora Lewis with parts of a lamb, Nick and Spencer Gates on goats, as well as Cienna Rogers with what she uses to wash goats.

We have some important upcoming dates:

- Feb. 1 deadline for enrollment for returning members!
 - February officer training — watch your email for the date
 - Feb. 27 Beef Weigh-in 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 - May 16 Sheep Goat and Swine Weigh in 5-7 p.m.
 - June 27 poultry/rabbit weigh in 5-7 p.m.
- We have an opportunity for a community pride project with Meeker Skijor.
- Feb. 18 setup
 - Feb. 19 pickup after event
 - Feb. 20 teardown when it's over



Hattie Brennan

Congratulations to our new 2022 Showtime officers!

- President:** Tatum Kennedy
 - Vice President:** Hadley Franklin
 - Secretary:** Charlie Rogers
 - Treasurer:** Nick Gates
 - Reporter:** Hattie Brennan
 - Historians:** Cienna Rogers and Jayci Chintala
 - County Council Reps:** Teagan Smith, Spencer Gates and Owen Etchart
 - Pledge Leaders:** Brodee Kilduff, Milo Brennan, Cambrey Rogers and Rylan Ivy
- Our next meeting will be Sunday, Feb. 13 at 4 p.m.

CORRECTION

In last week's CNCC Corner op-ed, the name of CNCC's agricultural business, animal science and equine program faculty member was misspelled. The correct spelling is Carrie Olsen. She can be reached at carrie.olsen@cncc.edu.

OBITUARIES

Wilma Sue Brown Sims

Jan. 13, 1933 ~ Jan. 4, 2022

Wilma Sue Brown Sims, 88, passed away on Jan. 4, 2022, from complications from a fall in her home. She was the third of four daughters born to Herb and Etta Brown in Pope County, Arkansas, on Jan. 13, 1933.

Wilma was nine when her father passed away. She, along with her mother and sisters, worked hard to survive. They picked cotton and raised what food they had to eat.

Wilma married the love of her life, Cletis Sims, on Aug. 6, 1949. They had 72 wonderful years together. They made Dinosaur, Colorado, their home for most of those years. In 1998, they moved to Vernal, Utah.



Wilma Sims

Wilma and Cletis had one son, Dennis, whom they were so proud of. Wilma was devoted to Dennis and raised him with strong Christian values.

"Energizer Bunny" — those who knew Wilma will agree that describes her well. Wilma kept her home spotless inside and out. Even vacuuming her garage once a week. Wilma played hard, too. She loved to bowl, snowmobile and try her luck in Wendover, Nevada.

She served as Dinosaur Town Clerk and Court Clerk for 38 years. She and Cletis moved to Vernal in 1998. She worked for Uintah County for two years and then began working for Ba-

sin Nursery until 2018.

Wilma is survived by her husband, Cletis, son Dennis (Dixie), also her "adopted" family: Max, Jeff and Jackie Haslem. She is preceded in death by her parents and sisters.

Her family is extremely grateful to Good Shepherd for their loving care. The kindness and support of extended family, friends and neighbors sustained us. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

A private family service for Wilma will take place at a later date.

Online condolences may be shared at www.Ashley-ValleyFuneralHome.com

Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. . . Matthew 11:28.

Linda Jeffrey

June 29, 1946 ~ Jan. 4, 2022

Linda Jeffrey passed away on Jan. 4, 2022, at the age of 75. Linda was born on June 29, 1946. Linda married Delford Jeffrey in Craig, Colorado, on April 18, 1975. Linda enjoyed reading and spending time with her family.



Linda Jeffrey

husband Delford Jeffrey. Daughters Jeralee Edmonds, Rona Flesner, Leah Edmonds and Lois Smith. Sons Elvis Jeffrey, Dell Jeffrey, Michael Jeffrey and Loice Jeffrey. Granddaughters Cassie Brabazon, Harlee Brabazon, and Adrianna Edmonds as well as numer-

ous other grandchildren and great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by grandsons Roy Elmore and Michael Wiegand and granddaughter Amber Jeffrey.

A private family service for Linda will take place at a later date.

Online condolences may be shared at www.Ashley-ValleyFuneralHome.com

Ruby Lea Toles

Nov. 26, 1929 ~ Jan. 1, 2022

Ruby Lea Toles, beloved mother, grandmother, aunt and friend, passed away peacefully on Jan. 1, 2022, at the age of 92, with family in Idaho. She was born on Nov. 26, 1929, to Walter Richard (Dutch) and Pauline Hazelbush. As the youngest of six children, Ruby was adored by her family and known as "Babe." She competed for and won the title of rodeo queen in Vernal, Utah, and participated in cheerleading at Wasatch Academy in Mount Pleasant, Utah.

She was married to the love of her life, John Reid Toles on Aug. 4, 1950, and thoroughly loved him and the life they built together. They had three beautiful children — Tanya, Susan and Mike, and spent their years living and working in oil fields in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico and Nevada. They were sealed as a family for Time and all Eternity in the Salt Lake City Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Nov. 30, 1970.

Ruby valued hard work and worked her whole life. She worked as a telephone operator, ran her family's

Chuck Wagon, and the Trading Post in Rangely, Colorado. She was a bank teller in New Mexico. In her later years, you could find her working at the marina store at Echo Bay and Overton beach, then working at the senior center in Overton serving food, cleaning tables or washing dishes. She always had things to keep her busy and did many things for others to fill her days. She worked and lived with purpose.

Ruby made friends everywhere she went. Her relationships with family and friends were the highlight of her life and brought her so much joy. She had an adventurous spirit and loved to travel with her family, especially when it led them to the ocean. She loved baking, sewing, and gardening. She loved mini Pepsi's, and Golden Oreos. Although allergic to cinnamon, she enjoyed the delicious carrot cake from Sugars, even though the cinnamon made her lips "tingle." She was



Ruby Toles

a master teacher and used her skills to coach her grandchildren to respond with "Granny Ruby" when asked "Who loves you?" She loved to tease, and could put a smile on anyone's face and always did. She is survived by two of her children, Susan (Mike) Killpack and Mike (Robin) Toles, six grandchildren and their spouses, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Ruby lived a long and full life. She was dearly loved by everyone who knew her. We will miss her dearly, but we know she is happy to finally be reunited with her husband, daughter and other family members that have passed. We look forward to celebrating the life of Ruby Lea in Overton, Nevada, at a later date to be announced.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Nalder Funeral Home in Shelley, Idaho. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.nalderfuneralhome.com.

Alpine West's Alex Plumb earns REALTORS® Commitment to Excellence endorsement

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Alex Plumb, Broker/Owner of Alpine West Properties, Meeker, Colorado has earned the REALTORS® Commitment to Excellence Endorsement from the National Association of Realtors®. The Endorsement goes to Realtors® who have demonstrated knowledge and competency in 10 core areas of real estate practice.

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4. Realtor® Code of Ethics
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The C2EX Endorsement, available only to Realtors®, is earned through a self-directed program that enables real estate professionals to assess and build on their competency in each of the core areas. As a broker/owner in addition to demonstrating competency in all 10 areas, Plumb was required to show a commitment to fostering an environment that promotes excellent customer service consistent with these



Alex Plumb

standards.

"Since it was launched in 2018, NAR's REALTORS® Commitment to Excellence program has transformed our field, spotlighting Realtor® professionalism and helping our members gain a critical competitive edge over the industry," said NAR President Charlie Oppler, a Realtor® from Franklin Lakes, N.J., and the CEO of Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty. "Available only to Realtors®, the C2EX endorsement offers a completely customized path toward success based on each individual's pre-existing knowledge, and it's clear why thousands of NAR members have already signed up to pursue their endorsement. Today, we are proud of Alex Plumb for making this commitment and distinguishing himself in Meeker's real estate market."

The National Association of Realtors® is America's largest trade association, representing over 1.4 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

For further information contact:
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RANCHING: seminar scheduled for Jan. 28

► Continued from Page 1A

understanding the economic leverage of grazing management, exploring grazing principles, applying grazing principles, sizing opportunities, and structuring a drought resilient business.

"You are guaranteed to take home at least one tip that can instantly help you make decisions and make your business more profitable," said Villard.

The seminar, which typically costs around \$100 per person, is being offered free to local ranchers and agriculture business professionals in Rio Blanco, Moffat and Routt counties. Space will be

limited and participants are encouraged to register in advance. Lunch and workshop materials will be provided to those who register for the event prior to Jan. 21.

More information on the event, and registration, can be found at www.cncc.edu/dallasmount, or by contacting Carrie Olsen at 970-675-3345.

About CNCC: Colorado Northwestern Community College enhances people's lives by providing an accessible, affordable, quality education. It is the college of choice for students seeking a unique education grounded in the Colorado

experience. Learn More about CNCC at <http://www.cncc.edu>.

About Ranching for Profit: The internationally acclaimed Ranching For Profit program provides structure, support, and accountability to help people improve ranch profitability. Instructors have a well-deserved reputation for excellence and a rich practical background in ranching. They use a number of highly effective classroom techniques, real-life case studies, and a healthy dose of humor to empower people to transform their ranches into successful businesses.

OBITUARY POLICY:

The Rio Blanco Herald Times chooses not to charge a publication fee for obituaries or death notices with a local connection to the county. It is our belief that publishing obituaries is a matter of public record and part of our responsibility as a newspaper to maintain a living record of our local history. This is made possible by our subscribers and supporters. If you need to submit an obituary or death notice, please stop by the office or email editor@theheraldtimes.com



2021 Meeker High School alumnae Sophia Goedert had some of her photos featured in George Washington University's "New Favorites" exhibit. Her collection follows the timeline of a branding day from sunrise to sunset and spotlights many familiar Meeker faces.

Goedert's photos featured in D.C. exhibit

By **KATIE LOCKWOOD**
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Sophia Goedert, a 2021 Meeker High School alumnae, recently had her photos featured in the George Washington University's "New Favorites" exhibit. Goedert's interest in taking photos sparked from her opportunities to travel to places like Costa Rica and France and led her to take photography seriously in high school. She would go to Sheridan Harvey's ranch to take pictures for her portfolio to submit to George Washington University, where

she now studies photojournalism.

Her impressive portfolio landed her a scholarship with Corcoran Scholars and presented her with the opportunity to be included in the exhibit. Each year, the Corcoran Scholarship selects an outstanding group of incoming first-year undergraduate students who show academic and creative excellence. The scholarship gives financial assistance to students and allows them to be a part of a talented community for the arts, have access to display their work in exhibits, and receive feedback on their portfolios.

Her collection follows the timeline of a branding day and all that it entails. The pictures flow from sunrise to sunset, showing ranchers roping and branding cattle, and features local faces such as Lane Anderson, Kelton Turner, Molly Turner, Kai Turner and others. Goedert wanted to show what ranchers do on a day-to-day basis and highlight the significance of branding day and its influence on the lives of the ranching community. She wanted viewers to form their own ideas and opinions about it and said, "I wanted people to feel what they wanted to feel about it."

Black named regional CPW manager

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Colorado Parks and Wildlife has named Travis Black as the agency's new Northwest Regional Manager based in Grand Junction. Black joined the former Colorado Division of Wildlife full-time in 1999 as a District Wildlife Manager in the Kit Carson district. In 2004, he was promoted to Area Wildlife Manager for Area 12 based in Lamar where he served for 15 years. During his tenure, Black played a key role in a federal-state task force formed to manage invasive feral swine. His work resulted in Colorado becoming the first state in the U.S. to eradicate feral swine, which cause billions of dollars in damage to crops, pastures and wildlife habitat each year. In 2019, Black was promoted to

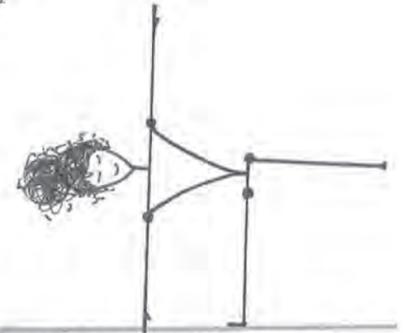
the Deputy Regional Manager position in CPW's Southeast Region in Colorado Springs and oversaw the region's water, energy, education, volunteer and communications team. "This is an enormous honor and an exciting challenge," Black said. "The Northwest Region with its rural, wide-open spaces feels like my home in Lamar and back in Texas. And it presents fascinating wildlife management opportunities. "I'm thrilled to be leading the excellent CPW team of wildlife officers, biologists and park rangers in the Northwest Region to tackle these issues." Black is a veteran of the U.S. Army, joining right out of high school. He served four years of active duty before returning to his native Texas where he worked on a farm and ranch for six years.

He moved to Colorado in 1994 to attend college at Western State College in Gunnison. He landed a part-time position with the DOW and worked in various positions including the Pitkin Hatchery and conducting Snowshoe hare surveys for lynx reintroduction, among other roles. Black graduated with a degree in biology in December 1998. "After working with Travis for more than 20 years, I have great respect for him and confidence in his leadership skills," said CPW Director Dan Prenzlow. "I believe Travis is a perfect fit for the Northwest Region and will faithfully guide our wildlife management and state parks there for many years." Black began his new role as Northwest Regional Manager in December.

THE STRIP

Half Moon Pose
from SLEEPY CAT YOGI SHOP

- First Steps To Every Pose**
1. Lengthen through the crown of your head, tucking your chin in just a smidgen to straighten out your cervical spine; stand, sit, or lay flat.
 2. Pull your belly button up and then back towards your spine to engage your core and lift your pelvic floor.
 3. Stay relaxed through your shoulders and maintain steady/natural inhales and exhales.



This pose is called Half Moon, it allows us to rejuvenate our balance and challenge our minds into stillness.

Begin by standing tall through the crown of your head, feet hips-width distance apart, and steady your breath. Next, turn your right toes out to the side. Reach your arms out to a T and when you feel ready begin to shift your weight onto your right foot as you start to tilt your body to the right and lift your left leg high.

You can try this pose with your back against a wall for a little extra assurance as this is a difficult balance pose

Hold this pose for as long as is comfortable then release and repeat on your left leg.

DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald
125 years ago

- It would not be so hard to die if we would only remember that life to a great extent is merely a preparation for rest.
- Shortcomings in character are generally long about going.

The Meeker Herald
100 years ago

- Isn't it funny to see another fellow get smacked in the ear with a snowball.
- Yes, it takes a lot of resolution to keep a new year's resolution.

The Meeker Herald
50 years ago

- Roger Clare, senior student at Denver University and a graduate of Meeker High School, is teaching at Meeker High School for 10 weeks.
- J. K. Stead, member of the Colorado State Game, Fish and Parks Department, speaking to the Rifle Lions Club Tuesday said 90% of the clearing and grubbing for the reconstruction work on the Rifle creek Fish Hatchery was completed, and the hatchery should be ready by the middle of 1972.

The Meeker Herald
25 years ago

- The Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office and Crimestoppers of Rio Blanco County are working together to obtain funds for a narcotics detection dog to be located in Meeker.
- Police are investigating an incident in which a high school coach allegedly lifted a wrestler up by his genitals.

Rangely Times
50 years ago

- The White River Bowmen welcomed over forty people to the first archery tournament ever held in its now completed building.
- A 20-mile four-inch gas pipeline was completed for Western Slope Gas Co, Public Service Company of Colorado's pipeline subsidiary, in Rio Blanco County, by Intermountain Equipment Rentals Inc. of Vernal, Utah.

Rangely Times
25 years ago

- Judy Miller and a group of high school girls painted the United States map out on the Parkview Playground as a church service project.
- Morality was the issue of the evening during the Rangely Board of Trustees first meeting of 1997. On January 14th, Brenda Crookston and other representatives from the high school's Parent Advisory Committee requested that the town consider a ban on juvenile smoking within city limits.

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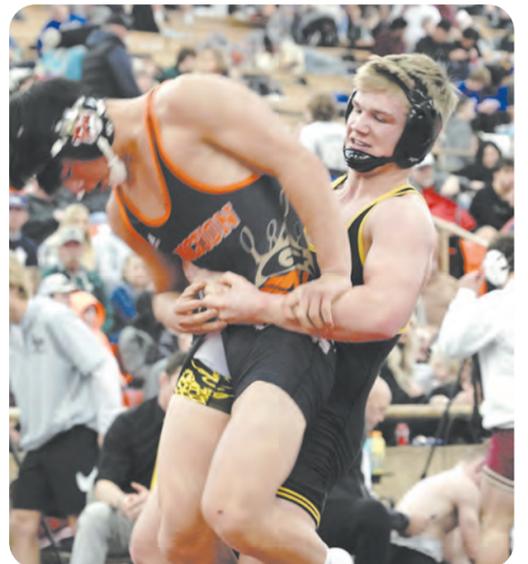
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TIFFANY JEHOUREK PHOTOS

(Left) Tanner Musser (285) placed second at the Tournament of Champions in Vernal. (Right) Connor Blunt was the 157 pound champion.

Cowboys host home tourney, compete in Vernal

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

MEEKER I Cowboy wrestling took to the home mats for the first time in this 2021-2022 season last Thursday, hosting Delta and Rifle for a triangular.

Opening with the Delta Panthers, the Cowboys won 56-18.

“The boys wrestled really well in front of a home crowd,” said head coach JC Watt.

The gym got loud during the 79-0 shutout of the Rifle Bears. Not only was it a sweep for the varsity but the exhibition matches of Coy Richardson and Cooper Michels had the crowd standing and Cowboys cheering.

“It was great to see the home crowd cheering so loudly,” said Watt. “The boys

were motivating their teammates Coy and Cooper and Cooper got his first win of the year.”

The following day the full team, varsity and JV, hit the road for Vernal for the Tournament of Champions.

Wrestling varsity were Zeek Gianinetti at 106 pounds, Bo Muxlow (113), Trae Kennedy (120), Owen Hannemann (120), Clay Crawford (126), Ty Goedert (132), Abe Maupin (138), Jake Blazon (144), Trinden Powell (157), Connor Blunt (157), Cade Blunt (165), Teagan Sheridan (175), Hayden Shults (190), Judd Harvey (215), and Tanner Musser (285).

The two day meet had a second chance option, if wrestlers lost two matches day one, they had the option of wrestling again in the second chance tournament on day two. Kennedy, Crawford, Goedert, Connor and

Cade Blunt, Sheridan, Harvey and Musser all remained in the regular varsity tournament on day two.

When the tournament wrapped up, Goedert had placed sixth and scored 13 points, Connor was the 157 pound Tournament of Champions, Champion and scored 29.5 points, Harvey placed seventh and scored 15 points, and Musser placed second and scored 22 points. As a team, the Cowboys took sixth place out of 34 teams with 109.5 points, only 10 points behind Pinedale.

Adrianna Price wrestled in her first ever girls only tournament in the 105 pound bracket. Price pinned her way to first place, she scored 26 points and single handedly put Meeker in the top 10 of the girls teams.

This weekend's events have been cancelled due to COVID.

Panthers fight hard at Tournament of Champions

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I Last weekend the Panther wrestling team competed in one of the most challenging tournaments they will compete in all year. Brackets were 32 men deep, filled with 2A up to 5A schools from Utah, Wyoming and Colorado.

Landon Carlson at 113 pounds, Colton Stevens (126), Izaiah Moody (132), Braxton Moore (144), and Brent Cantrell (175) came up short of wins this weekend.

“All of these young men wrestled tough, they all lost to very solid competitors (one of them even being the tournament runner up) and have nothing to hang their heads down for,” said head coach JC Chumacero.

Alex Black (157) and Kasen LeBleu (215) were both able to secure a win.

“They both also fought hard,” began Chumacero, “LeBleu continues to improve week to week. He was able to get a couple extra matches in on Saturday where he went 2-1.”

Four Panthers made it into the second day of wrestling. Aydan Christian (106) and Kobey Chism (132) were both on the consolation side of the bracket and were only one match away from the medal rounds going into Saturday.

“Both Aydan and Kobey lost their match eliminating them from the tournament,” said Chumacero, “I hope they can both see how well they truly did in a tournament like this.” Freshman Christian finished his weekend 3-2 and sophomore Chism 2-2.

“They are young and will continue to grow if they keep working hard,” commented Chumacero. Zane Varner (150) and Byron Mackay (HWT) both went into Saturday in the semi finals.

“This is a pretty big accomplishment as it is,” said Chumacero, “Zane wrestled a very smart and technical match defeating his Utah number two ranked (3A) Juab opponent 10-4”.

Varner's win advanced him into the finals. Mackay faced off against a Rio Blanco County foe, Tanner Musser. It was a very close match and Mackay fell by points losing 2-1, which

dropped down to the consolation side where he pinned his next opponent. This advanced him to the consolation semifinals where he wrestled for third.

“He continued to wrestle hard but unfortunately lost his last match of the day,” commented Chumacero, “he finished 4-2 on the weekend and took fourth place”.

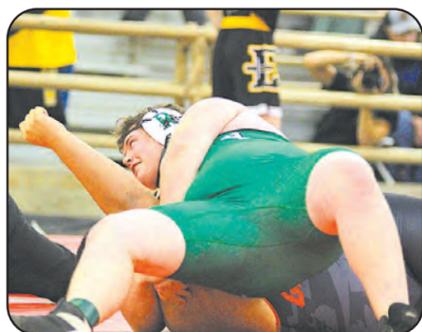
Varner entered the finals as the first Panther to make it that far in about 13 years. Varner was ready to wrestle but the 5A Utah number one ranked wrestler from Uintah came out very strong.

“Zane fell short but finished his weekend 3-1 and a second place finish,” wrapped up Chumacero, “placing in this tournament is a huge accomplishment and these two seniors should be extremely proud. I'm proud of the whole team and I feel like they are ready to keep working hard and preparing for regionals.”

The Panther wrestlers will be in Hayden this weekend with the tournament beginning at 9 a.m.

(Below) Byron Mackay (HWT) made it to the Saturday semifinals at the Tournament of Champions and ended up taking fourth with 4-2 on the weekend. (Right) Zane Varner entered the finals as the first Panther to make it that far into the tournament in 13 years. He took second place after falling to a number one ranked Uintah opponent. More photos at ht1885.com

COURTESY PHOTOS



SPORTS SCHEDULE

RANGELY BASKETBALL (VARSITY)

Jan. 13 @ Home v. Hayden
5:30 p.m. (girls) and 7 p.m. (boys)
Jan. 14 @ De Beque
5 p.m. (girls) and 6:30 p.m. (boys)
Jan. 15 @ Home v. Soroco
4 p.m. (girls) and
Jan. 21 @ Home v. West Grand
5:30 p.m. (girls) and 7 p.m. (boys)
Jan. 21 @ Olathe
2:30 p.m. (girls) and 4 p.m. (boys)

RANGELY HS WRESTLING

Jan. 14 — Duals @ Hayden

Jan. 15 — Hayden Tourney
Jan. 22 — Rangely Tournament
Jan. 29 — @ Grand Valley

MEEKER BASKETBALL (VARSITY)

Jan. 13 @ Grand Valley
3-10 p.m.
Jan. 14 @ Plateau Valley
4 p.m.
Jan. 20 @ Home v. Snake River
4:30-8:30 p.m.
Jan. 21 @ Caprock
3-9 p.m.
Jan. 22 @ Home v. Soroco

1-5:30 p.m.
Jan. 27 @ Home v. Rangely
4-8:30 p.m.
Jan. 29 @ Vail Mountain
1-4 p.m.

MEEKER HS WRESTLING

Jan. 13 @ Grand Valley
Jan. 15 @ Hayden
Jan. 18 — @ Moffat County
Jan. 21-22 — Rumble in the Rockies @ Lafayette
Jan. 26 — @ Palisade

MEEKER REC CORNER

[Click here for event details! >>>](#)

- Jan. 15 -
Family Ice Fishing Day

- Jan. 21 -
Sunlight Ski Trip

- Jan. 28 -
Cheer Clinic

- Feb. 12 -
Mother & Daughter Tea

- Feb. 18 -
Cupid's Inflatable Pool Party

- Feb. 19 -
First Aid/CPR/AED Class

Tap for
more event
details!



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTOS

The lady Panthers won 40-23 against the Vail Christian Saints last Friday at home.

Lady Panthers host Vail Christian, prep for big week of league games

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY | The lady Panthers hosted the Vail Christian Saints on Friday. The Panthers opened up strong, creating a lot of turnovers and just struggled finishing around the basket. The Panthers came out with a win 40-23. Miah Wren led all scoring with 16, followed by Mary Scoggins with eight, Cantrell with four, Adelynn Halcomb is back in action

this week contributing three points along with Ashlynn Ducey, Kastyn Dembowski, Miley Chism and Ryann Mergelman with two apiece. Kastyn led rebounding with eight, followed by Scoggins and Cantrell with seven each.

The Panthers have a big week ahead of them hosting Hayden on Thursday, traveling to DeBeque on Friday and hosting Soroco on Saturday. All three games are league games.

The Panthers dropped two to Vail teams and will play Hayden Thursday.

Rangely boys 0-2 in league play

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY | Rangely opened up league play by hosting Vail Christian last Friday. The Saints came out firing, hitting three 3-pointers in the first quarter. Vail Christian also frustrated the Panthers with a stifling 1-3-1 zone and man-to-man defenses. The Panthers clamped down defensively in the second quarter, but found few answers in the second half. The final tally was a 37-70 loss for Rangely, while Vail Christian remains tied for the top league record. Timothy Scoggins led the Panthers in scoring with 14 points. The Panther C-team recorded a win, while the JV team lost to the Saints.

Vail Mountain hosted the Panthers on Saturday, and Rangely found themselves in another tough matchup. Beck Sapp for the Gore Rangers torched the Panthers with 18

points, including three 3-pointers in the first half. The Panthers were able to slow down Vail Mountain in the second half with some mixed defenses, but not enough to avoid a 36-69 loss and second league defeat.

“We came out flat-footed against two very good ball clubs. However, I’m confident we’ll learn some valuable lessons from these two games that will help us down the road,” said coach Kyle Boydston. Vail Mountain remains undefeated in league play. Marstan Wagner put up eight points to lead Rangely, with Fisher Winder, Kevin Wren, and Kenyon Cochrane all pitching in six points each. The Panther JV team lost to Vail Mountain.

Rangely will have a busy weekend with three more league matchups, hosting Hayden on Thursday, Jan. 13, traveling to De Beque on Friday, and then hosting Soroco on Saturday.

Lady Cowboys fall to North Fork Miners, host home opener

By TIFFANY JEHOREK

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | 2022 basketball opened at North Fork High School, once Hotchkiss and Paonia independently, the newly formed high school is no longer in Meeker’s league and has moved up to class 3A.

“This was the first time the girls have seen a full man and high pressure defense,” said head coach Jamie Rogers.

North Fork was up 29-24 at the half. The Cowboys played them evenly in the second half, but couldn’t make up the gap.

“They shut down Sarah,” said Rogers, “and Hailey really stepped up and brought the ball down the court.”

Sarah Kracht, who ended the night with 23 points — three 3-pointers, six rebounds, and four steals — once again led the Cowboys in stats. Hailey Knowles had 13 points, six rebounds and four steals, and Ainsley Selle led rebounds with nine.

Final score was 45-52 to the North Fork Miners.

“It was a tough loss, but good for the girls to see that defense and play in a fast

paced game,” Rogers said.

Saturday the lady Cowboys had their first home opener of 2022, their first league game for the year, and their first win against the Olathe Pirates.

“Walking into the gym we walked past the JV,” said Rogers, “every single one of the Olathe girls was taller than me; as a team they played aggressive full press, and I was worried the girls’ legs would be tired after Friday’s game.”

Kracht had 15 of the final 41 points and Knowles 10, accounting for well more than half of the total points.

In the first quarter the Cowboys were up big, 16-3 and went to the locker room 28-13.

The Cowboys championed over the Pirates 41-32 and are 2-0 in the league.

This week there are two more games, Thursday at Grand Valley when all of the winter sports teams travel to Parachute to take on the Cardinals. Wrestling begins at 5:30, girls varsity at 6:30 and boys varsity at 8.

The Cowboys will now take on Plateau Valley Friday instead of Saturday with games beginning at 4 p.m.



AMBER GARCIA PHOTOS

The lady Cowbosy are 2-0 in the league.

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AMBER GARCIA PHOTOS

MHS boys had a winning weekend and head to Grand Valley Thursday.

Winning weekend for Cowboys

By TIFFANY JEHOREK

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | A winning weekend for Cowboy basketball, they went 2-0 on the weekend and it improved their overall record to 50% (3-3)

“We played better, we shot the ball better both games, and we were finally able to put some scoring runs together,” commented head coach Klark Kinder.

On the road for game one, the North Fork Miners took the early lead and were up seven points at the half. The Cowboys came out strong at the half, holding the Miners to just eight points while putting up 18 and taking the lead.

Zagar Brown and Casey Brink each contributed 14 of the 52 points for the Cowboys in the 52-48 win. Brown also led off the

boards with 10 rebounds and both Brink and Zach Simonsen had seven.

Saturday, in the first game of 2022 at home, the Olathe Pirates came to town. The Cowboys dominated early and commanded the lead the entire game.

Simonsen came within 2 points of 20, scoring 18, and Jace Mobley scored 10, leading the Cowboys to the 55-27 victory.

The Olathe Pirates are in the same league as Meeker, and this win brought the league record up to 1-1.

The Cowboys now look forward to a big night Thursday night in Grand Valley where all of the winter sports teams will be competing. Friday they hit the road to challenge another league opponent, Plateau Valley, JV begins at 4 p.m. Thursday the games will start at approximately 6:30 p.m. for girls varsity with the boys varsity to follow.

We're going ice skating now and...  ...playing indoor soccer later.  Kids: color stuff in! 

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2022 V2

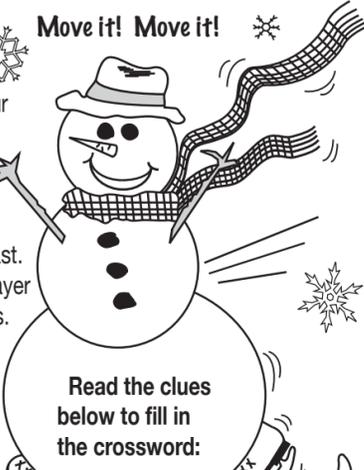
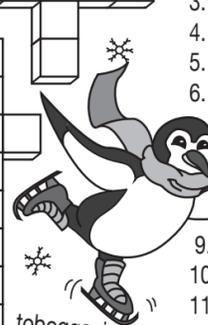
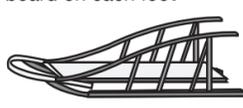
Cool Winter Action!

So, what is your excuse for just sitting there like a lumpy pillow? Whaaaat? 

"It's cold outside"? Yes, of course it is. It is *wintertime*. In areas of the country where it snows a lot or ponds freeze over, kids can get exercise outdoors skiing or ice skating. In areas where it's colder, but there's no snow, kids can still hike, walk, and play a bit of basketball! During the winter we can find many things to do inside to keep physically active. Bowling and dancing are two of my favorite indoor pastimes. I hope my puzzles help you to think of things that will get you up and keep you moving all winter long.

Read the clues below to fill in the crossword:

- gliding on ice using metal blades
- coasting down a snowy hill on a long, flat-bottomed, wooden sled that's curved up in the front
- cheering and watching trained sled dogs
- warmly lined child's winter wear
- pressing snow together to form
- twirling down a snowy hill on a round
- putting on special footgear and walking across deep snow without sinking
- sliding down snowy hills on a small, steerable wooden and metal "coaster"
- sliding downhill, with a long, narrow board on each foot
- building and dressing
- riding a motorized vehicle on snow
- riding in a horse-drawn

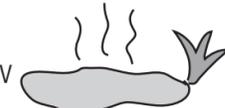
No Snow? Keep on the Go!

If it's cooler where you live, but there is no snow, there are lots of activities to keep you on the go! My friend in North Carolina rides his bike when the roads are dry. My cousin in Texas plays basketball. If the weather is lousy, think about places that have indoor rinks, gyms or rooms for playing sports and exercising. Your local recreation department might have a list of fun activities in which you can take part.

The activities below have 2 of the same letter missing. Can you study the words to fill in the missing letters?

- basketba _ _
- ex _ rcise vid _ os
- inli _ e skati _ g
- vid _ o game danc _ mats
- dance le _ _ ons
- vo _ _ eyball
- swi _ _ ing
- dru _ _ ing
- te _ _ is
- k _ r _ te
- so _ _ er
- bowli _ g ten pi _

Master of Disguise!

- When the air cools and I become a "cloud on the ground," I am
O G F _ _ _
I can't see! 
- When I pass through very cold air and fall gently to the earth, I am
S O
W N
- The air warms and I disappear or
E _ A _ O _ A _ E
T P
R V 



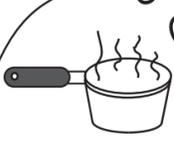

Hot, Hearty Food!

Brrrrr! It's cold outside. After a frosty, fun activity, doesn't a hot, hearty meal sound good? Winter's a time for hot drinks and warm, nourishing foods. Can you find and circle these cold-weather favorites?

chicken broth
cheese fondue
hot chocolate
baked potato
dumplings
pancakes
meat loaf
casserole

muffins
roast
soup
stew

SOUP'S ON!

THEME: THE GRAMMY AWARDS
ACROSS
 1. Chunk of land
 6. Sail alternative
 9. Female sheep, pl.
 13. Oak, in Spanish
 14. Nucleic acid acronym
 15. "___ under fire"
 16. Permeate
 17. Internet meme move
 18. *Number of 2022 Grammy nominations for Doja Cat or H.E.R.
 19. *Justin Bieber's stuff from Georgia
 21. *Gaga's partner
 23. Mauna ____, Hawaii
 24. Cartoon Coyote's first name
 25. Lawyers' grp.
 28. Marine eagle
 30. Like Roger Rabbit
 35. Boisterous play
 37. Ore deposit
 39. Davy Crockett's last stand
 40. U.S. city and lake
 41. Tossed starter
 43. F.B.I. operative
 44. Group of nine singers, e.g.
 46. Gardner's gear
 47. In the middle of
 48. Arctic-wear
 50. Porcini mushrooms
 52. In the manner of, in French
 53. *Bruno Mars and Anderson .Paak, a.k.a. ___ Sonic
 55. Decimal system base
 57. *2022 Grammy nominations leader
 61. "Bad Habits" performer
 65. Lacking sense
 66. Unit of electrical resistance
 68. Low landform
 69. Grassy mound
 70. Recent or new, prefix
 71. Los ____, CA
 72. Peasy precursor
 73. .000001 joule
 74. Earp of the Wild West

DOWN
 1. LSD consequence?
 2. City on the Tiber
 3. *Swedish band with one 2022 Grammy nomination
 4. Exclamation from a coop
 5. Tittering laugh sound
 6. Bookie's quote
 7. Registered nurses' org.
 8. Torah expert
 9. Female name or a name for Ireland
 10. Worker's reward
 11. Not counterfeit
 12. Cobblestone
 15. Genus, pl.
 20. British peers
 22. Will Ferrell holiday movie
 24. Matrimony
 25. *2022 Grammy event venue, Crypto.com ___
 26. B on Mendeleev's table
 27. Type of acid
 29. *Grammy host's last name
 31. Aquarium dweller
 32. #3 Down's 1975 hit "___ Mia"
 33. Means of communication
 34. *Kanye's album
 36. Source of pressure?
 38. Facilitate
 42. Profoundness
 45. Tip of lion's tail
 49. First aid one
 51. Up and down playground attraction
 54. Sergio of westerns
 56. Very recently
 57. Triathlon ride
 58. Tolstoy's Karenina
 59. New Mexico art colony
 60. Inwardly
 61. Dirty air
 62. Common "pro" follower
 63. Loads
 64. Egg storage
 67. "Fight for You" performer

CROSSWORD

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SUDOKU

GRAND ALASKAN CRUISE & TOUR
12 days, departs May - Sep 2022
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promo code N7017

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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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

MEETINGS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO
RIO BLANCO COUNTY ANNEX BUILDING
17497 HWY 64

RANGELY, CO 81648
This meeting will be streamed live on the RBC YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBicnhMpb47zL_NjN0FIg

Tentative Agenda January 18, 2022

Public Comment: Any member of the public may address the Board on matters which are within the jurisdiction of the Board. If you are addressing the Board regarding a matter listed on the Agenda, you are requested to make your comments when the Board takes that matter. Please limit your comments to three minutes per member or five minutes per group. The public comment time is not for questions and answers. It is your time to express your views.

- 11:00 a.m. Call to order:
- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Changes to the January 18, 2022 Agenda
- C. Move to approve the January 18, 2022 Agenda including any changes
2. CONSENT AGENDA for January 18, 2022

A. Move to approve the below listed items of the Consent Agenda.

3. BUSINESS
4. BID AWARDS
5. MOU's, CONTRACTS, AND AGREEMENTS

A. Move to approve/deny a memorandum of Understanding with Colorado State University Extension for participation in educational programs.

B. Move to approve/deny an Agreement for Services with Melanie Hendershott for Menu Analysis and Nutritional Guidance to the Senior Nutrition Program.

6. RESOLUTIONS
7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Public Comment
B. County Commissioners Updates
8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Adjourn
The agenda is provided for informational purposes only; all times are approximate. Agenda items will normally be considered in the order they appear on the agenda. However, the Board may alter the Agenda, take breaks during the meeting, work through the noon hour and even continue an item for a future meeting date. The Board, while in session, may consider other items that are brought before it. Scheduled items may be continued if the Board is unable to complete the Agenda as scheduled. The next regular Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 25, 2022 in the Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse, 555 Main St., 3rd Floor Hearing Room, Meeker, CO. Please check the County's website for information at <http://rbc.us/18> 6/Board-of-County-Commissioners. If you need special accommodations please call 970-878-9431 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

TOWN OF MEEKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, January 18th 2022
7:00 P.M. ~ Town Hall
345 Market Street, Meeker, CO

Due to COVID-19 precautions, the public is invited to attend by calling 970-878-8091

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of the Previous Minutes
6. Approval of Monthly Disbursements

7. Public Participation
This is an opportunity for Citizens to bring comments and questions to the Board of Trustees not being addressed in the Regular Meeting Agenda. In consideration of other regularly scheduled agenda items, comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less. Citizens are asked to approach the podium state their name and address for the record.

8. Public Hearings:
a. Consideration of Retail Liquor License (Brew Pub) for Smoking River Brewing Company, LLC

b. Consideration of Ordinance 01-2022 Minor Subdivision for Pioneers Medical Center

9. New Business

a. Adoption of Resolution 01-2022 for appointment to the fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees and administer the Oath of Office

b. Discussion regarding job description for Community Development/Planner

10. Staff Reports

a. Public Works

b. Police Department

c. Town Clerk

d. Town Attorney

e. Town Manager

11. Mayor's Remarks

12. Other Board Business

13. Adjournment

Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

2022 Fair Board Meeting Schedule
(Dates are the last Thursday of each month @6PM unless otherwise noted)
January 26th (Wednesday), Rangely
February 24th, Meeker
March 31st, Rangely
April 28th, Meeker

May 26th, Rangely
June 30th, Meeker
July 14th, Meeker
August - FAIR, No Meeting
September 8th - PUBLIC INPUT, Rangely and Meeker

October 27th, Meeker
November 17th - Meeker
December 29th - Meeker
Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF MEEKER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 2.08.020 of the Meeker Town Code, that on Thursday, January 13 th at 7:00 p.m., a Special Meeting will be held at the Town Hall Board Room, 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO 81641. This meeting is being called as a Board workshop to interview applicant(s) for vacant Trustee seat prior to making an appointment at the next regular Board meeting.
Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Public Notice

A public hearing has been scheduled for February 1, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Meeker Town Hall, 345 Market Street, to consider a Special Event Liquor License request by: Meeker Lions Club, for the following event: Meeker Skiing Event
779 Sulphur Creek Rd, 4-H Building, Meeker Colorado
on February 19, 2022 from 4:00 pm to

12:00 am
§ Elizabeth Ridgeway
Liquor Clerk
Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE RIO BLANCO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, January 27th, 2022 the Rio Blanco County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse, 555 Main Street, 3rd Floor Commissioner Meeting Room, Meeker, Colorado to consider the following:

PRZ-0002-21 Third Amendment of Elk Creek Ranch PUD-Rezone. The applicant (Elk Creek Ranch Owners Association) is requesting to rezone a +/- 42 acre property from Agricultural (AG) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the purpose of conforming to the Land Use Resolution (2016) governing Rio Blanco County.

The property will be added to the current Planned Unit Development Agreement.

The property is located within the SE ¼ of Section 10 and NE ¼ of Section 15, T1S, R93W of the 6th P.M. The parcel of ground is referred to as the "North 40" parcel.

Copies of the documents may be obtained from the Rio Blanco County Planning Department at 555 Main Street in Meeker, Colorado, or you may call (970) 878-9510 for more information between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Published: January 13, 20 and 27, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, January 18, 2022 the Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Rio Blanco County Annex Building – Board Room, 17497 Hwy 64, Rangely, Colorado to consider the following:

2021 Land Use Regulation Amendments OTHR-0002-21 (1-3). Recreational Vehicles, Central Water, Central Sewer, and Adjacent Owner Notification

OTHR-0002-21 Item 1: Small Lots - Add verbiage to CR, I, and C zoning districts that all lots less than 1 acre in size must have access to Central Water and Sewer Utilities. Pages 28, 30, and 31 of the current LUR respectively.

OTHR-0002-21 Item 2: RV's Article 7, Section 7-610 – combine subsections A & B as follows:

"Recreation Vehicle use on privately owned Legal parcels for longer than 60 consecutive days must have/acquire a water and sewer plan approved by the Rio Blanco County Building Department."

OTHR-0002-21 Item 3: Adjacent Property Owner Notification:

Change from ½ mile radius to Adjacent – Article 4, Section 4-101, Item 1, sub-item 2: **Page 40 of the current LUR**

Copies of the documents may be obtained from the Rio Blanco County Planning Department at 555 Main Street in Meeker, Colorado, or you may call (970) 878-9510 for more information between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Published: December 16, 23, 30, 2021, January 6 and 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

TOWN OF RANGELY Check Register December-21

VENDOR, AMOUNT, DESCRIPTION

AFLAC, 254.51, Payroll Deduction
ALADDIN FOOD MANAGEMENT SERVICES, 2364.30, Expenses
ALL COPY PRODUCTS INC, 897.67, Expenses
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, 1454.42, Expenses
AQUIONICS INC, 1604.11, Expenses
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & WELLNESS PLLC, 350.00, Expenses
BLUE 360 MEDIA, 417.78, Expenses
BOY-KO SUPPLY CO, 303.44, Expenses
CALDWELL, JEANNIE, 40.00, Expenses
CASELLE, INC, 1168.00, Software Support
CEBT, 32716.58, Life Insurance
CENTURY EQUIPMENT COMPANY, 13164.62, Expenses
CENTURYLINK, 1715.71, Communication
CIMARRON TELECOMMUNICATIONS LLC, 55.00, Communication
COLOCPA SERVICES PC, 168.75, Expenses
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC, -1.06, Expenses
COX, MARYBEL, 40.00, Expenses
DAVIDSON, DONALD J, 100.00, Council Stipend
DIRECTV, 475.50, WRV Expenses
DUCEY'S ELECTRIC, 1700.91, Expenses
EL AGAVE, 420.00, Shop N Dine
ELLIS, KEELY, 100.00, Council Stipend
EMTECH INC, 5056.52, Expenses
FBILEEDA, 695.00, Expenses
FERGUSON WATERWORKS, 299.11, Expenses
FIDELITY ADVISOR FUNDS, 18145.46, Payroll deduction
FIRST BANKCARD, 3859.97, Expenses
FPPA, 830.20, PD Insurance
GIOVANNIS ITALIAN GRILL, 1005.00, Expenses
GRAND VALLEY APPRAISALS LLC, 3000.00, Expenses
GRANGER, ALISA, 100.00, Council Stipend
GREENSHINE, 12847.00, Expenses
HACH, 3711.53, Expenses
HAMLIN, TIRYNN, 40.00, Expenses
HE,JL, STEVE, -1.00, Expenses
HILTON, KELLER, 40.00, Expenses
HUBER TECHNOLOGY, 168780.00, Expenses
IDEXX DISTRIBUTION INC, 666.15, Expenses
KUM & GO, 145.00, Expenses
LEXIPOL LLC, 13072.00, Expenses
MAIL SERVICES, 696.38, Services
MAIN STREET CAFE, 50.00, Shop N Dine
MAIN STREET PUB, 30.00, Shop N Dine
MILLARD, KETCHUM, 40.00, Expenses
MOON LAKE ELECTRIC ASSN, 11964.29, Electricity
MOUNTAIN WEST/MOUNTAIN ALARM, 299.40, Expenses
MUELLER CONSTRUCTION SERVICES INC, 47500.00, Expenses
MULLEN, JOCELYN, 40.00, Expenses
NELSON, KODI RAE, 100.00, Council Stipend
NETWORKS UNLIMITED, 3112.60, Support/Services
NICHOLS STORE, 280.85, Expenses
PHENOVA INC, 557.00, Expenses
PIERING, LISA, 40.00, Expenses
PINNACOL ASSURANCE, 3541.22, Expenses
PINYON TREE LIQUORS, 585.00, Shop N Dine
PITNEY BOWES INC, 356.97, Expenses
POLICE LEGAL SCIENCES, 600.00, Expenses
PRATER'S PLUMBING & HEATING, 2160.70, Expenses
PROFESSIONAL TOUCH OF NNCO LLC, 9352.03, Expenses
PSI WATER TECHNOLOGIES INC, 1433.79, Expenses
PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER INC, 21.00, Expenses
QUILL CORPORATION, 971.76, Expenses
RANGELY AREA CHAMBER, 550.00, Expenses
RANGELY AUTO PARTS & SUPPLY, 1860.55, Expenses
RANGELY CONOCO, 120.00, Shop N Dine
RANGELY HARDWARE, 8679.10, Expenses
RANGELY LIQUOR STORE, 145.00, Shop N Dine
RANGELY SCHOOL FOUNDATION INC, 14832.59, Sales Tax Funding
RANGELY TRASH SERVICE, 958.28, Services
RANGELY, TOWN OF, 5148.72, Utilities
RIO BLANCO COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER, 50.00, Expenses
RIO BLANCO COUNTY, 26807.24, Expenses
ROBIE, TREY, 100.00, Council Stipend
ROCKY MOUNTAIN SUPPLY CO, 667.58, Expenses
SBT INTERNET, 45.00, Expenses
SENERGY BUILDERS LLC, 3594.80, Expenses
SERVICE MASTER CLEAN, 225.00, Expenses

SGS ACCUTEST INC, 199.00, Expenses
SHAFFER, ANDREW, 150.00, Council Stipend
SNOWSHOE ENGINEERING COMPANY, 992.00, Expenses
SOILTEK ORGANIC SOLUTIONS LLC, 900.00, Expenses
STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY RC, 703.16, Life Insurance
STEARNS CONSTRUCTION INC, 5600.00, Expenses
SUMMIT ENERGY LLC, 58135.49, Gas Transmission/Tra nsport
SWEETBRIAR, 670.00, Shop N Dine
TDA CONSTRUCTION INC, 11836.50, Expenses
TOP EAGLE CONSTRUCTION, 1028.50, Expenses
TRANSUNION RISK & ALTERNATIVE, 75.00, Services
US TRACTOR & HARVEST INC, 12188.00, Expenses
UNCC, 14.52, Services
UNITED COMPANIES, 175075.00, Expenses
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 1558.00, Expenses
USA BLUEBOOK, 326.04, Expenses
VERIZON WIRELESS, 733.75, Expenses
VERNAL WINNELSON CO, 667.91, Expenses
WEBBER, TIMOTHY, 100.00, Council Stipend
WEX BANK, 5171.24, Fuel
WHITE RIVER MARKET, 1170.00, Shop N Dine
WHITE RIVER MARKET, 68.11, Expenses
WILCZEK, KAREN, 300.00, Judge's Fee
WRB REC & PARK DISTRICT, 44.25, Expenses
717,025.50
Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Meeker Sanitation District Accounts Payable December 31, 2021

Total Payroll, \$26,993.72
Quickbooks Payroll Svc. Direct Deposit Fee, \$48.75
Federal Tax Withholding, \$2,305.00
Social Security Withholding, \$4,592.23
Medicare Withholding, \$1,074.03
PERA Retirement, \$8,644.47
U.S. Postal Service: Postage, \$352.40
CEBT: Health, Dental, Vision, Life Ins., \$17,072.09
Mountain Valley Bank: Merchant sv. Fees, \$80.91
Bank of the San Juans: Service Charge, \$30.00
Networking of the Rockies: Printers, \$6,400.00
CO State Treasurer: Unemployment Tax, \$262.41
State of CO: Withholding, \$3,173.00
White River Museum: Donation, \$200.00
Meeker Chamber of Commerce: Chamber Bucks, \$700.00
Union Telephone: Cell Phone Svc., \$217.32
Atmos Energy: Natural Gas Svc., \$1,692.60
Century Link: Telephone Service, \$356.61
Cimarron Telecom: Broadband, \$155.00
Cogent: Pump, \$12,450.00
CO Analytical Labs: Testing, \$132.00
ERBM Rec District: 2022 Memberships, \$2,087.50
First Bankcard Visa: Adobe, Safety Clothing, Office supplies, \$379.40
Charlie Frantz: Snow Removal, \$140.00
Jeans Printing: Sewer Bills, \$522.19
MARC: Ice melt, \$214.82
McGuire Auto Parts: Vehicle Maintenance, \$10.18
Meeker Chamber of Commerce: 2022 Membership, \$475.00
Networking of the Rockies: IT support, \$1,000.00
Office Depot: Office Supplies, \$503.41
Orkin: Pest Control, \$238.00
Overton Recycling: Trash Svc., \$306.00
Respond First Aid Systems: Supplies, \$29.75
RBC Fleet Management: Fuel, \$238.23
Special District Assoc. of CO: 2022 Dues, \$1,237.50
Town of Meeker: Water Svc., \$24.00
US Geologic Survey: Testing, \$1,845.00
Utility Notification Center: Line Locates, \$19.80
Valley Hardware, \$115.97
Watt's Ranch Market: Misc. Supplies, \$74.32
WREA: Electric Svc., \$6,224.19
Total Accounts Payable \$102,617.80
PUBLISHED: JANUARY 13, 2022
RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES

PAYROLL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TOWN OF MEEKER 12/31/21

GENERAL FUND

Town of Meeker, Payroll = PD
Supplemental, \$56,891.25
CRA, Emp. Retirement - PD, \$3,387.66
CRA, Emp. Retirement, \$7,911.64
CRA, Emp. Loan Payments, \$1,426.59
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Ins., \$24,719.82
Emp. Withholding, Federal Withholding, \$5,045.82
Emp. Withholding, State Withholding, \$1,980.30
Emp. Withholding, Medicare Withholding, \$2,180.82
Emp. Withholding, SS Withholding, \$5,431.48
MHRM, Emp. Donation, \$27.00
Standard Ins. Co., Life/AD&D Ins., \$1,081.27
Washington National Ins., Cancer Ins., \$96.12
Petty Cash, Recordings & Postage, \$51.56
A-1 Heating & Cooling, Install New Pressure Switch, \$1,172.95
Abila, Acct. Software Annual Renewal, \$2,731.24
Adee Holdings LLC, Builder Incentive Rebate, \$5,000.00
AGNC, 2022 Annual Dues, \$2,500.00
All Copy Products, Copier Lease, \$454.53
Also, Coveralls, \$31.65
Also, Dec. Coveralls, \$31.65
Atmos, Dec. Natural Gas, \$1,214.86
Blue 360 Media, Colo. Peace Officers Handbooks, \$364.65
BoyKo, Gloves, Toilet Tissue, \$80.28
Century Link, Nov. Phone Svc., \$265.61
CIRSA, 2022 Liability Ins., \$51,121.00
Club 20, Annual Dues, \$2,000.00
CML, Annual Membership, \$1,475.00
CMRS-PB, Dec. Postage, \$35.45
Colo. Dept. of Rev., Processing Fee for OJW's, \$45.00
Colo. Document Security, Document Destruction, \$50.00

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES

Year 2022 Blasting Schedule

Colowyo Coal Company L.P. hereby publishes the following blasting schedule for the 2022 year.

1. **Identification of blasting areas:** During the year 2022, blasting will be conducted within the following areas:

- T3N, R93W, 6th P.M., Moffat and Rio Blanco Counties, Colorado**
- W1/2 of Section 3,
- E1/2 of Section 4,
- S1/2 of Section 9,
- W1/2 of Section 10,
- W1/2 of Section 16,
- All of Section 17,
- E1/2 of Section 19,
- All of Section 20,
- NW1/4 of Section 21
- T4N, R93W, 6th P.M., Moffat County, Colorado**
- S1/2SW1/4, SW1/4SE1/4 of Section 16,
- SE1/4NE1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4SW1/4 of Section 20,
- W1/2NW1/4, N1/2NE1/4 of Section 21,
- W1/2, E1/2NE1/4, and E1/2SE1/4 of Section 22,
- W1/2 of Section 27,
- NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 29,
- All of Section 30
- NW1/4NW1/4 of Section 31,
- W1/2 of Section 34
- T3N, R94W, 6th P.M., Moffat County, Colorado**
- W1/2 of Section 1,
- All of Section 2,
- E1/2 of Section 3,
- N1/2 of Section 11
- T4N, R94W, 6th P.M., Moffat County, Colorado**
- S1/2 of Section 25,
- S1/2 of Section 26,
- E1/2 of Section 34,
- All of Section 35,
- All of Section 36

2. **Time of blast:** Blasting operations will be conducted daily between sunrise and sunset.

3. All mine roads to blast areas will be blocked at least ten minutes prior to the blast by manned vehicles having radio communication with the Blasting Foreman. The blast areas will be cleared by the Blasting Foreman.

4. **Audible Warning Signals:** Before blast signal: Four series of three short sirens, then four series of three long sirens.

After blast all clear signal: The Blasting Foreman will check the blast and report the all clear to barricade crews, followed by a single, long siren.

5. Blasting may not be conducted at times different from those announced in this blasting schedule except in emergency situations where rain, lightning, other atmospheric conditions, or Operator or public safety requires unscheduled detonation.

Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Colo. State Treasurer, 4th Qtr Unemployment, \$709.63
Column Software, PBC, Legal Publications, \$229.37
Coulter, Lance, Builder Incentive Rebate, \$5,000.00
Ducey's Electric, Town Hall 3rd Floor Electrical, \$2,687.66
Edwards, Jay Atty., Muni Judge Services, \$200.00
Elevation Cakes, Christmas Party Supplies, \$57.51
Gall's, 3 Blk Softshell Jackets / PD, \$63.35
Halandras, Regas, Payment 3&4 Water Loadout Remodel, \$29,908.32
Herald Times, Legal Publications, \$130.50
In Compliance Products, Compliance Posters, \$50.00
Jean's Printing, Envelopes / PD, \$64.23
L.A.W.S. Install Signal Devices, \$755.00
MB Enterprises, Window Cleaning / Town Hall, \$707.00
McGuire Auto, Bit Set / PW, \$31.94
McGuire Auto, Batteries DumpTrk & Maintainer, \$92.05
Midwest Radar & Equipment, Annual Radar Certification / PD, \$200.00
Mtn. Cross Engineering, Preliminary Estimate & Cost, \$595.00
Muni Code, Annual Admin Support, \$187.50
MVB - VISA, Kennel Flaps / AC, Meals, Loding/ PD; Gift Cards, Office Supplies, \$1,453.80
Networking of the Rockies, Dec. Monthly IT Support, \$1,666.67
Northwest Auto, 2017 Yukon Repair / PD, \$86.00
Northwest Auto, New Transmission in F-150 / PW, \$1,774.14
Northwest Auto, 2 New Tires for Backhoe / PW, \$195.83
Northwest Auto, 4 New Tires / AC Truck, \$634.76
Olaszewski, Massih & Maurer, Nov. Legal Fees, \$1,717.00
Olaszewski, Massih & Maurer, Dec. Legal Fees, \$1,615.00

Overton Recycling, Trash Svc., Hunting Season, \$1,882.00
Overton Recycling, Dec. Recycle Contribution, \$1,250.00
Overton Recycling, Dec. Trash Service, \$122.00
Overton, Russell, Reimb. Safety Boots, \$200.00
Pinnacol Assurance, Annual Workman's Comp Renewal, \$12,520.24
Professional Elevator Insp., Annual State Inspection, \$399.00
Professional Elevator Insp., Annual State Inspection, \$399.00
RBC Fleet Management, Nov. Fuel, \$1,696.80
RBC Fleet Management, Dec. Fuel, \$1,590.07
RBC ICT Dept., Dec. Internet Service, \$164.00
RBC Sales & Use Tax, Dec. sales Tax Adj., \$12,585.24
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Nov. Claims, \$1,723.18
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Dec. Admin Fee, \$74.10
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Dec. HRA Claims, \$6,573.39
Samuelson's, Trim for Stairs / Town Hall Bldg., \$1,982.98
Samuelson's, Ice Melt, Light Bulbs / PW, \$60.31
SWCA, Aquatic Resource Inventory Report, \$3,506.16
SWCA, Final Invoice Aquatic Resource, \$597.14
TK Elevator Corporation, Qtrly Elevator Maintenance, \$870.76
Union Telephone, Dec. Cell Phone Svc., \$553.52
Valley Hardware, Tape, Batteries / Bldg., \$74.33
Valley Hardware, Stain for 3rd Floor Trim / Bldg., Timer & Lights / AC, \$249.38
Vet Clinic, Donations to Vet Clinic, \$1,390.36
Watt's, Dog Food / AC, \$29.55

Watt's, Dog Food / AC; Employee Christmas, \$165.73
Western Slope Consulting, Planning Services Sept. - Dec., \$783.75
White River Dist., Bottle Water, \$20.25
White River Electric, Nov. Electricity, \$1,763.67
White River Electric, Downtown Street Light Bulbs, \$1,972.80
Your Parts Haus, Motor Oil & Filters / PD, \$165.24
Total General Fund, \$283,882.41
WATER FUND
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$15,560.73
CCOERA, Emp. Retirement, \$2,454.68
CCOERA, Employee Loans, \$653.47
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Ins., \$7,119.24
Emp. Withholding, SS Withholding, \$2,700.08
Emp. Withholding, Medicare Withholding, \$631.44
Emp. Withholding, Federal Withholding, \$1,552.81
Emp. Withholding, State Withholding, \$848.70
MHRM, Employee Donation, \$18.00
Standard Ins. Co., Life/AD&D Ins., \$322.25
Washington National Ins., Cancer Ins., \$98.13
US Postmaster, Water Billing Pstg., \$227.73
A-1 Heating & Cooling, Boiler Repair Bulk Water Facility, \$407.14
Abila, Acct. Software Annual Renewal, \$2,731.23
All Copy Products, Copier Lease, \$109.08
Also, Coveralls, \$31.65
Also, Dec. Coveralls, \$31.65
Atmos, Dec. Natural Gas, \$650.56
Century Link, Nov. Phone Svc., \$19.54
CIRSA, 2022 Liability Ins., \$11,221.68
CMRS-PB, Dec. Postage, \$145.22
Colo. State Treasurer, 4th Qtr Unemployment, \$193.18
Column Software, PBC, Legal Publications, \$16.65
Craig Colo., Water Test, \$90.00
Data West, Annual Software Support, \$4,916.24
HACH Company, Water Testing Supplies, \$173.57
Henrie, John, Reimb. Credit in Water Acct., \$64.00
Jean's Printing, Water Bills, \$1,042.82
McGuire Auto, Bit Set / PW, \$31.93
McGuire Auto, Batteries for Dump Trk & Maintainer / PW, \$424.21
Mtn. Cross Engineering, Plan Review for Trail & Hitch Waterline, \$680.00
Mtn. Cross Engineering, As-Built for CDPHE Certificate, \$170.00
Muni Code, Annual Admin Support, \$62.50
MVB - VISA, Office Supplies, Phone Svc., \$32.28
Northwest Auto, New Transmission in F-150 / PW, \$1,774.14
Northwest Auto, 2 New Tires for Backhoe / PW, \$195.83
Olaszewski, Massih & Maurer, Nov. Legal Fees, \$433.50
Olaszewski, Massih & Maurer, Dec. Legal Fees, \$85.00
Pinnacol Assurance, Annual Workman's Comp Renewal, \$2,340.76
RBC Fleet Management, Nov. Fuel, \$285.77
RBC Fleet Management, Dec. Fuel, \$254.71
RBC ICT Dept., Dec. Internet Service, \$36.00
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Nov. Claims, \$514.72
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Dec. Admin Fee, \$20.90
Rocky Mtn. Reserve, Dec. HRA Claims, \$1,963.48
Samuelson's, Nut Driver, \$7.49
Samuelson's, Ice Melt, Light Bulbs / PW, \$85.45
SGS, Water Samples, \$222.31
Timberline Electric, SCADA & Electronics at Pump Houses, \$1,684.00
Timberline Electric, SCADA License Renewal, \$275.00
Union Telephone, Dec. Cell Phone Svc., \$90.10
UPS, Water Test Pstg., \$11.17
UPS, Water Test Pstg., \$81.04
USGS, Stream Flow & Water Quality Monitoring Prog., \$5,070.00
Utility Notification Center, Line Locates, \$95.04
Utility Notification Center, Line Locates, \$44.88
Valley Hardware, Glue, Contractor Bag, Hose / PW, \$65.15
Valley Hardware, Ice Melt / PW, \$60.47
Water Pump & Supply, Adjust Pressure Switch Sage Hills, \$140.00
Watt's, Rubbing Alcohol, \$3.59
West Elk Supply, Chlorine, \$625.00
White River Electric, Nov. Electricity, \$2,152.20
Total Water Fund \$74,121.67
Total All Funds \$358,023.68
Published: January 13, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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

SAFEHOUSE

If you are being abused physically or mentally, you can call SAFEHOUSE for confidential shelter and help. 878-3999

RENTALS: MEEKER

5 BR/2 BA house, 752 10th Street, Meeker Minimum 1 year lease, \$1500/month + utilities + deposit. No pets. Email 752rental@gmail.com for more info

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

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

FOR RENT - Halandras Building. Interior commercial office space. @425 sq feet. Two rooms. Off street parking Electricity included. Call 970-629-9714

RENTALS: MEEKER

Main Street Building
Office and warehouse spaces available. Utilities included with monthly rent. Please call 970-683-1875.

STORAGE DEPOT 10x25 unit. 878-4808.

RENTALS: RANGELY

Rangely Duplex for Rent 1 or 2 bedroom duplex -Newly remodeled & landscaped. Please contact Rodney 970-462-6538 or Sandy 970-462-6459.

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~ Gandalf

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NEW 58.37+/- Acres at Highway 13 & Rd. 15: Gateway to Meeker, development opportunity..... \$700,440
58.25 acres east of Pioneers Medical Center.....\$699,000
NEW 8617 Rd. 8: 4BD/3BA, White River Valley views, 2.88 acres..... \$490,000
12.69 acres close to Lake Avery, irrigation water rights, south facing views of the valley..... \$480,000
980 Cleveland St.: Enormous corner lot, 2BD/1BA main home upstairs, 1BD/1BA rental below..... \$280,000
8.45 acres at the top of 6th Street, great building location for one or more homes..... \$249,000
825 3rd St..... PENDING
7.46 acres on East Market St., great highway visibility, potential for residential, agricultural or commercial..... \$245,000
73432 Hwy. 64..... PENDING
GAME UNIT 11..... SOLD
109 Market St.: Corner lot on HWY 13, surrounded by thriving businesses..... \$167,000
6 lots in Ridge Estates, 2-5 acre lots, domestic & irrigation water, private road, close to town..... Prices \$45,000 - \$130,000
13.45 acres south of Pioneers Medical Center..... \$80,700

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NEW! 1560 CR 15 -Ranch, 3BD | 1.5BA cabin including 2 domestic wells, 390+acres w/ multiple outbuildings & fenced pastures/pens. \$1,200,000.

6900 CR 7 -Unlimited opportunities await with this 35 acres rural property, featuring a domestic well, Lg. primary home w/ 5BD/2BA and a private guest house 1BD/1BA, heated garage, and workshop. *Reduced \$815,000*

1161 CR 8 -3BD/2BA|1952 SF log home on 5 acres overlooking the river with a natural spring. Features include central air, updated electrical system, and domestic well. *Reduced \$415,000*

1131 Michael Cir -3 BD | 3 BA | 2779 SF home offering open concept living, updated appliances, new flooring, and a great location to the Meeker trail system, parks, Recreation Center, and schools. This home provides ample storage, generous room sizes, and beautiful natural light. Priced to Sell! *\$325,000*

White River Condo, Unit 15-2BD | 1BA | 879 SF, two-story floorplan with a 50 SF storage unit included, Private Park. *\$89,000.*

White River Condo, Unit 3-2 BD | 1 BA | 874 SF, single level floorplan with a 201 SF storage unit included, River Access. *\$89,000.*

1417 Silver Sage Rd. -Elevated double lots in Sage Hills, great views w/ Lg. building envelope. *Reduced \$50,000*

1085 Pinyon St.....UNDER CONTRACT
White River Condos-Unit 13.....UNDER CONTRACT
858 5th St.....SOLD
1034 Julie Cir.....SOLD
1200 CR 119.....SOLD
White River Condos-Unit 1.....SOLD

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RANCHES
125+ acres - Vacant land with water rights. Close to town. \$750,000.
BACK ON THE MARKET! 1001 County Rd. 36, Meeker - 145+ total acres, ranch with 4 BD/3BA home, metal insulated shop, insulated barn and pipe corrals. Mostly irrigated with water and spring rights and creek. Only 3 miles from town. \$1,200,000.

VACANT LAND
NEW! 1129 Gail Circle in Sanderson Hills - Great views, includes sewer and water taps, plus survey and some excavation. \$41,500. UNDER CONTRACT!

COMMERCIAL
NEW! Maybell Meat Processing, 60240 Hwy. 40, Maybell - Full wild game processing in one of Colorado's prime hunting areas. Fully equipped building on 6 lots, also has two RV hookups and a private well. \$280,000. Call for more details!

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- *Five 6 to 8 Acre lots in east Rangely. \$51,000 to \$71,000.
- *43 Acre lot in east Rangely. \$180,000.
- TBD County Road 43-5 vacant irrigated acres. Great views. SOLD!
- *6.4 Acre lot E Main St., Rangely. SOLD!
- *195 Mesa Drive-5 Acres, large 2 story home, garage. \$502,000. SOLD!
- 189 County Road 43-Large home, garage, shop, 11.5 irrigated acres. SOLD!
- *6902 County Road 7- 5 Acres, home, shop. SOLD!

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