

# Herald Times



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## Flu cases in county; get your flu shots

By SEAN McMAHON  
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**RBC I** There are confirmed flu cases in Rio Blanco County, the top county health official and the county's two hospitals report, but the numbers are not high.

Colleen Zufelt, director of the Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health and Environment, as well as officials at both county hospitals, report that there have been a couple of confirmed Type 1 and H1N1 flu cases within the county, but Zufelt stressed it is not too late to get a flu shot now.

"The vaccines protect against two strains of Type A flu, which includes H1N1, and one strain of Type B flu," Zufelt said. "We are being flooded with people now who are coming in to get their shots, and I believe it is more important this year than it has been because the flu is quite common now in Colorado."

"Colorado has already seen more than double the flu cases it had last year," she said. "And of the cases confirmed, at least 60 percent have occurred in the age group from 25 to 65 years. For those folks, I would strongly urge a flu shot."

Zufelt said the flu season peaks in February but continues through March, stressing that it is much easier and cheaper to get the shots now than it would be to treat the flu and its potential complications if someone comes down with the flu later.

She also said that Medicaid and Medicare should take care of the cost for their patients as well as Rocky Mountain Health Plan and that those who pay the \$25 cash for the shots may be reimbursed by their personal insurance.

"Flu shots are only good for one year and the public should be vaccinated each year," Zufelt said. "There is no better time to make an appointment right now with either a person's doctor, the clinics at the hospitals in Rangely and Meeker or at the county public health offices."

The county health office in Meeker is located at 345 Market St., and appointments can be made by calling 878-9520. The health office in Rangely is located at 209 E. Main St., and appointments can be made at 878-9525.

According to Zufelt, the chief difference between the flu and a cold is that with the flu, "there is aching all

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## {2013} Year in Review the last six months



A larger-than-life sculpture by Meeker sculptor John Kobald was dedicated July 4 in Meeker as the Rio Blanco County Veterans Memorial with the name of "Sacrifice and Resolution." The statue is on the lawn in front of the county courthouse with a duplicate slated for Rangely in 2014.

## Action constant in late 2013

Special to the Herald Times

**RBC I** The Rangely Board of Education named Matt Scoggins the next RE-4 district superintendent after a hiring process that lasted more than a month narrowed the field to two candidates, Scoggins and Paul Jebe of La Junta, Colo.

■ Bureau of Land Management-managed lands in Rio Blanco, Moffat, Jackson and Grand counties entered Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on June 25.

■ As of Oct. 1, Dick Welle will no longer be standing by the window of his second-story office, overlooking the domain that has filled his life for 38 years. On that date, he is stepping down as general manager of White River Electric Association (WREA).

■ The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) awarded the Rio Blanco County Road & Bridge Department a \$1 million Energy

Impact Assistance Fund (EIAF) Tier 2 grant.

The funding will assist in making approximately \$2,782,000 of roadway improvements. The project will provide an asphalt overlay of the entire 13 miles of County Road 24, which is the Ryan Gulch Road, an important route in the Piceance Creek Basin.

■ Several volunteers worked over the weekend to mount the statue of the soldier atop the stand that together form the Rio Blanco County Veterans Memorial on the courthouse lawn in downtown Meeker.

The memorial honors the first soldiers who garrisoned Rio Blanco County and continues to honor all men and women of all ranks and service who served in the Armed Forces up to and through the current conflicts in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

The sculpture is a joint venture between VFW Post No. 5843 in Meeker and VFW Post No. 5261 in

Rangely.

Dubbed "Sacrifice and Resolution," the sculpture is a bronze of a 1-1/4 life-sized modern-day infantry soldier sculpted by Meeker resident John Kobald.

■ The Meeker School District Board of Education announced publicly that Mark Meyer of Alamosa had accepted the position of Meeker superintendent of schools.

■ Ethel Starbuck, 95, and Joe Sullivan, 93, took a brief stroll around the Rio Blanco County Courthouse lawn following the annual Fourth of July Parade, which featured the two as grand marshals.

■ Tessa Slagle, 17, an incoming senior at Rangely High School, is one of 64 youth ambassadors from around Colorado representing her county during the eight-week Making Colorado internship and marketing program. Students create written and visual content each

► See **REVIEW**, Page 9A

## Kobald new Meeker Chamber executive director

Special to the Herald Times

**MEEKER I** Stephanie Kobald has been named the new executive director of the Meeker Chamber of Commerce.

Kobald will fill the vacancy left by Katelin Cook, who served as the executive director for three years, and who has accepted the position of economic development coordinator for Rio Blanco County.

For the past year, Kobald has been the membership and tourism coordinator for the Meeker chamber.

"As the membership director, Stephanie has been learning about our

local businesses and their needs and challenges," Meeker Chamber President Leif Joy said. "When you combine her knowledge of local business with her out-of-the-box thinking, you get a dynamic leader who will bring fresh ideas to promote Meeker."

Kobald was graduated from the University of Illinois with a bachelor of fine arts degree in landscape architecture. She moved to Meeker in 1999 from Chicago and worked as a landscape architect for DHM Design in Carbondale until 2011.

She was hired by the Meeker chamber in January 2013 and brought her strong creativity, marketing,

graphic design, communications, public outreach and relationship building skills to the organization.

As executive director Kobald serves the community as a member of the Meeker Arts and Cultural Council board of directors and assists Meeker Elementary School as a Destination Imagination team leader.

Kobald has focused on building membership relations, promoting Meeker to visitors and strengthening the community.

"The chamber serves a lot of diverse functions for our community,

► See **CHAMBER**, Page 2A



Stephanie Kobald

## 'A Night at Hogwarts' ...

From 'A Night at Hogwarts' at Parkview Elementary School, which focused on literacy, to fun times at Mountain Valley Bank's Fall Festival in Meeker, a wide variety of events kept things a-hopping for the last six months of 2013. For a review of July through December, start on Page 1 below and follow Part II of the Year in Review on pages 9A and 10A.



## MSD declares an 'emergency' with schools' funding

By SEAN McMAHON  
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**MEEKER I** December financial tables from the Colorado Department of Education led Meeker School Superintendent Mark Meyer to recommend, and the Meeker School District RE-1 Board of Trustees to declare, a state of emergency over district funding.

The bad news was "devastating to a school district of our size," Meyer said Friday. "I have been trying to talk to the state department of education all week to find out what happened and what we can do."

The district board had passed a budget that was \$540,000 in the red for the current year. In the past, deficit budgets have been met with more money coming into the district in the latter part of the year, so the district's reserve fund has not needed to be tapped or was tapped very little.

"We were going over the December tables recently and were very unhappily disturbed," Meyer said. "We have more than 600 students in the Meeker school district, and the state books are telling us we are down another \$739 per student."

"With us being down already and then finding out that the tables indicate we are down about more than another \$460,000, we find ourselves down by a little more than \$1 million," he said. "As far as I know and from my years in Colorado with other districts, I don't know of any similar situation."

He said the hope is that the state might provide the district with a loan to make up the shortfall.

"They won't bail us out; a loan is possible," Meyer said. "The board

hasn't decided which direction to go yet because as of today, I haven't been able to get ahold of the right people in Denver."

"We need money, so we won't need to make any immediate or deep cuts," he said. "Our unassigned ending fund balance (reserve fund) may help us out a bit, but there is no long-term solution there."

Meyer said the district's ending fund balance or carry-over funds are roughly \$3.9 million. But, he said, "that really isn't a lot of money; this would only allow the district to keep running for about 7.2 months before being completely out of money."

How this current school year will be affected, Meyer said he doesn't know yet.

"I would say today that cutting staff isn't even on the table for this year," he said. "That can always change under a worst-case scenario, but I don't see that happening at this point."

"Because we haven't been able to talk to folks at the state level, we haven't really looked at anything like another bond issue," Meyer said. "We have so many questions to ask of the state that it is really tough to talk about options at this time."

Meyer said the Meeker board will be holding a public forum, when the members will be seeking input from the community about priorities, possible solutions and, "as much as I don't want to say it, where cuts can be made."

The forum will be held at 6 p.m. on Jan. 23 in the Meeker High School auditorium, and the public is invited and urged to attend to address the issue because it is an "entire community issue," Meyer said.

## Agencies working for countywide trail plan

By HEATHER ZADRA  
Special to the Herald Times

**RBC I** Dozens of people attended the public meetings in Rangely and Meeker last week to discuss a master trails plan for Rio Blanco County. The plan, once carried out, would give residents and visitors access to approximately 1,000 miles of trails for motorized and non-motorized use countywide.

Fort Collins-based Great Outdoors Consultants (GOC), which was hired in November to design the plan, presented information along with county, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and United States Forest Service (USFS) representatives Jan. 8 in Meeker and Jan. 9 in Rangely.

During the meetings, representatives affirmed their intention to further collaborate on current and future trails projects.

Kent Walter, field manager for the BLM White River Field Office, said the BLM is moving toward Phase II of its travel management process, which involves developing a comprehensive

plan to designate roads and trails and assess potential uses. Walter said the inventory process, which begins this summer, can be informed by residents providing input about routes or areas they would like prioritized or given specific designations.

Ken Coffin, the district ranger for the Blanco Ranger District of the White River National Forest, said that in addition to developing the master plan, agencies will focus on marketing the existing Wagon Wheel Trail System, a 250-mile network of trails established in the White River National Forest in 2011.

He also encouraged flexibility as planners look to extend trails across the county.

"(County commissioner) Jeff (Eskelson) mentioned there are currently lots of other existing uses on our public lands, whether it's livestock grazing, oil and gas, or outfitters and guides ... lot of people currently depend on it for their incomes," Coffin said. "I can't help but imagine that

► See **TRAILS**, Page 11A

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**BRIEFS**

**Rangely 4-H conducting food drive**

**RANGELY** | Rangely 4-H is conducting a food drive this week to benefit the Rangely Food Bank, and area residents are urged to donate canned goods and non-perishable items. The items can be dropped off at the White River Market through Sunday or at Rangely Town Hall through 5 p.m. on Friday. Members of Rangely 4-H will also be going house to house on Jan. 18, asking for donations for the food bank.

**Fundraiser set for Meeker Wrestling Club**

**MEEKER** | Wendell's Wondrous Wiener Wagon and Watt's Ranch Market will host "Plates for Non-Profits" on Jan. 17 with proceeds benefitting Meeker Community Wrestling Club. Backed by the Meeker Chamber of Commerce, on one day a month, a local restaurant will host "Plates for Non-Profits" with a portion of the sales going to a local non-profit group. On Jan. 17, enjoy coffee and breakfast sandwiches at Cuppa Joe, then hot dogs, chili dogs and hamburgers from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in the parking lot of Watts Ranch Market. All lunch sales will be donated to wrestling club. You can also enter a drawing for two free tickets to the dual wrestling meet that night at Meeker High School between No. 1-ranked Paonia and No. 2-ranked Meeker.

**Classes offered by fire protection district**

**MEEKER** | The Rio Blanco Fire Protection District is offering a series of classes that are open to the public. The district is currently offering CPR/First Aid classes at the fire station at 236 7th St. in Meeker and will soon be offering EMT-Basic classes, also at the station in Meeker. Please call 970-878-3443 for more information.

**Meekerite Carl Taussig inducted into PTK**

**MEEKER** | Carl Taussig of Meeker was inducted into the Beta Rho Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) at College of the Desert in Palm City, Calif., on Dec. 17. Taussig, from Meeker, is majoring in nursing. He is the son of Ron and Phyllis Taussig of Meeker and is married to James Eilman of Palm Springs, Calif. PTK, headquartered in Jackson, Miss., is the largest honor society in American higher education with 1,280 chapters on college campuses in all 50 states and several foreign countries.

**KOBALD: Great listener**

► Continued from Page 1A

and I am excited to take on this challenging position and tackle the work as executive director," Kobald said. "I enjoy living in Meeker and am committed to supporting our citizens and businesses. I love promoting Meeker because I know it is a great place to play, live and work." As executive director, Kobald plans to continue the combination of services, programs and member benefits the Meeker chamber currently has in place and, with the leadership of the chamber board of directors, add to that foundation with new solutions toward some of the community issues.

"Stephanie is a great listener," says Wendy Gutierrez, vice president of the chamber board. "I have seen her listen to a variety of ideas and incorporate them into a workable program." "I am excited for Stephanie's advancement and believe 100 percent that the chamber is moving in the right direction," Katelin Cook said. "Stephanie's skill set is a great asset to this organization." "Meeker businesses must be adaptive and creative to survive and grow in our remote area and the chamber must also be adaptive and creative if it is to be responsive to the changing needs of our membership," Joy said. "We look forward to 2014 being a

year of new opportunity for business," Joy continued. "The chamber will focus on three areas: supporting area businesses, attracting visitors and being a partner in the Rio Blanco County Economic Development Initiative." There are several local events that the chamber plans to promote to draw more out-of-town visitors, such as the OHV Rendezvous, Meekerpalooza Arts and Music Festival and the U.S. Forest Service's 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

The chamber is also exploring additional tourism programs, such as maps, signage and other recreational events. "By bringing more visitors to Meeker, we hope to increase foot traffic through our businesses," Gutierrez said. The mission of the Meeker chamber is to represent, advocate and encourage the development of businesses and our community by implementing responsible economic development, business retention and tourism programs while being a positive liaison between businesses and government.

The 2014 chamber board of directors includes: president Leif Joy, vice president Wendy Gutierrez, treasurer Ann Marie Scritchfield and members Joe Fennessy, Diana Jones, Cassie McGuire, Kim O'Connell, Lee Overton and Marti Walsh.

**SNOW IN RANGELY ...**



Although Rangely hasn't seen a substantial snowstorm since December, small accumulations of two inches or less over the last month have made for passable sledding conditions on the hills next to Rangely High School. HEATHER ZADRA

**MHS scores high in state, spends high**

By **CALVIN SHEPHERD**  
Special to the Herald Times

*EDITOR'S NOTE: There are several Internet sites that track students' educational progress in Colorado. Schooldigger.com is just one of those. The figures in this story have been confirmed through local school officials, but the Herald Times will continue to check other sites as well.*

**MEEKER** | According to Schooldigger.com, Meeker High School is ranked 84th out of 339 high schools in Colorado, making it the highest-ranking school in TCAP out of the Meeker Re-1 School District schools, and money might be the reason.

Between the three schools, Meeker High School spent a total of \$8,372.79 per student in comparison to Barone Middle School with \$4,912.49 and Meeker Elementary School, which spent an average of \$3,562.99 in school year 2012-13.

These costs factor out school maintenance and administration, representing only the money spent to teach students.

"Meeker High School is a half million dollars over budget; Meeker Elementary comes in just under budget and Barone Middle School comes in right at budget," Meeker High School Principal Dr. Kim Ibach said prior to this week's news that the district is looking at a budget shortfall of more than \$1 million.

How money may affect student performance may be best illustrated by 2013 TCAP scores in particular grades as ranked on Schooldigger.com.

For example, while MHS was in the upper quarter of all high schools in Colorado, Barone Middle School ranked No. 128 out of 418 middle and junior high school in the state, placing it in the upper third. However, Meeker Elementary School was ranked No. 415 out of 887 elementary schools in the state, spending less than half the budgeted amount per student compared to the high school.

The scores that decided the rankings are based on reading and math. The elementary scored an average of 71.7 percentile in math and 74 per-

centile in reading; Barone Middle School scored an average of 59.7 in math and 77.6 in reading; while the high school, though it is the highest ranked, scored a low of 39.6 in math but a high of 81.4 in reading.

Meeker High School is ahead of many of the surrounding schools, including Rifle High School, which ranked No. 226, Moffat County High School ranked No. 186, Hayden High School ranked No. 199 while Rangely Junior/Senior High School ranked No. 215.

Meeker School District is looking at a "projected" \$1.1 million deficit, according to a Nov. 18 email to the teachers from district Superintendent Mark Meyer.

Education may face tough cuts, Dr. Ibach said. She compared the cost of those cuts to cutting back 14 teachers and one principal (which is close to the equivalent of the entire Meeker High School teaching staff.)

Although a decision has not yet been made regarding what specific cuts will need to be made within the

district, there is concern among high school students that taxpayers might look at the amount the high school receives and call for most cuts to be made there.

"You are learning right brain, left brain activities, your hopes, desires and dreams are developing, and the average high school student needs more activities," said MHS junior Paige Jones, an athlete and artist. "Extracurricular activities are important. Funding for FFA, FBLA, sports, agriculture, shop and other non-core activities actually helps us engage and explore."

"It is important for the high school to maintain funding or even increase funding to ensure we accelerate learning," Jones said. "We're getting ready to go out into the real world. We need to have the kinds of classes that help us choose what we're going to be."

"Well, look at the richer states," Ibach said, trying to explain how money relates to education.

Wyoming spent a total of \$19,238 per student in kindergarten through

senior year in 2010, according to the Edgar E. Casey Foundation. Unlike Colorado, Wyoming has 72 high schools. The area school in the top quarter of Wyoming's scores, Little Snake River High School in Baggs, which is rated 18th in that state, outscored Meeker High School with scores of 76.5 in math and 82.3 in reading.

On www.teacherportal.com/salary/Colorado-teacher-salary, it states that Colorado teachers earn a starting salary of \$32,095 and on www.teacherportal.com/salary/Wyoming-teacher-salary, it is reported that Wyoming teachers earn a starting salary of \$43,053.

"A lot of people believe that wealth positively influences student success," Ibach said. "Case in point, Natrona County (Casper area) in Wyoming spends more than \$10,000 per year per student, however their graduation rate remains in the low to mid 70s. However, Meeker High School for the past five years has graduated in excess of 90 percent."

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**ENGAGEMENT ...**



COURTESY PHOTO

Jade Elizabeth Mehlhoff, formerly of Meeker, is engaged to Austin Doyle Schilling of Missouri. The bride-elect is the daughter of Suzanne and John Mehlhoff of Denver, Colo. The prospective bridegroom is the son of Kristin Doyle of Joplin, Mo. and Randy and Robin Schilling of Ozark, Mo. The bride-elect graduated from Union High School in Tulsa and received her biology degree from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. She is currently pursuing her nursing degree from the University of Arkansas. The prospective bridegroom was graduated from Carl Junction High School in Carl Junction, Mo. He was graduated from the University of Arkansas with degrees in financial management, marketing and he earned his master's in business administration. He is currently assistant director of athletics development at Missouri State University. The wedding is set for May 31 at The Stone Chapel at Matt Lane Farm in Fayetteville.

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# Community forum set for Meeker on Jan. 25

Special to the Herald Times

**MEEKER** I A citizens' forum on economic development for Rio Blanco County will be held on Jan. 25 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. in the Meeker Hotel dining room.

Sponsored by a new group, Rio Blanco County Citizens for Economic Development, which has a chief advocacy mission to encourage economic development through promotion of heritage and agri-tourism and related historic and cultural venues, the forum is a good chance to learn about a variety of efforts and opportunities being considered to improve the economy throughout the county and for the public to have input and give suggestions on ideas that may provide viable solutions.

All county residents are invited and welcomed to attend. Light refreshments will be served. Bring ideas and creativity to help address issues for the future of the county, organizers urged.

Representatives from the Colorado Tourism Office have been invited to share insight into programs that have worked in other rural communities.

Heritage and agri-tourism are among the most successful and easily accomplished in rural communities, and they account for the greatest economic growth in Colorado tourism.

Delta County has already pursued

such programs with success, and Kelli Hepler from Delta and the Colorado Tourism Office will present their success story.

The Colorado Commission on Agriculture will also provide input and discussion.

Other presenters invited are from History Colorado, the Office of Economic Development's Colorado Creative Industries, who will discuss designation as a creative district.

Meeker has been approved for nomination as a Colorado Historical District and the details of pursuing this nomination will be discussed.

A renowned professor emerita from Arizona State University who is a frequent Meeker visitor remarked this past fall that Rio Blanco County is a treasure trove of historic buildings and artifacts and has a rich and fascinating history that should and could be marketed to the world.

A multifaceted and strong marketing campaign through the Internet and social media can literally invite the world to visit and tour this most historic and interesting area, organizers said.

A teleconference will be made available for those who cannot attend in person. For more information or to participate in the citizens' forum by teleconference, please RSVP to 970-878-4832 or email amick@colorado.edu.



## WINTER BLAST ...

About 70 sledders and pushers took part in the ERBM Recreation Center's Winter Blast creative sled races Saturday at Paintbrush Park in Meeker. Winners were: Reese Clatterbaugh (6 and under); Colby Clatterbaugh (7-12 years); Sarah Gerloff (13 to 18 years); Natasha Clatterbaugh (19 and older); Brad and Xavier Buisker (family); and Ron Kelly Crawford (open class). Grand champion was Reese Clatterbaugh. The top three most-creative sleds belonged to: first - Ethan Quinn; second - Xavier Buisker; third - Clay Stewart.

SEAN MCMAHON

## FLU: Stay home if sick

Continued from Page 1A

over the body — arms, legs, everywhere." With a cold, the symptoms are restricted to the upper respiratory system.

She said there are also more strains of flu, and that with the standard flu shot, the symptoms will be lessened and the flu should be shorter in term than without a flu shot.

"We also know there are people out there afraid of getting their flu shots because they believe the vaccine contains the live virus," Zufelt said. "We at the health department have a vaccine that does not contain the live virus, so their fears are groundless. Some other places do have the vaccine that contains live virus, and I can tell the folks they shouldn't worry, but if the concern is there, the best thing to do is ask the question where it is they are going for

the vaccine."

A few tips Zufelt offered for avoiding a cold or the flu include getting flu shots as soon as possible, washing one's hands often and for 20 seconds with soap and warm water, cough or sneeze into your arm so as not to spread germs, staying away from folks with respiratory problems and staying at home if you do have a cold or the flu so you don't infect coworkers or other members of the public.

"Those who do have colds or particularly the flu need to remember that they need to be fever-free for at least 24 hours before they return to work," Zufelt said. "Some people believe that they would just as soon be sick at work instead of bored at home. While that may be OK in some cases, colds and the flu should be kept completely out of the work environment."

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FROM MY WINDOW...

# Avoid the flu; Looking at life with terminal cancer

By SEAN McMAHON  
sean@theheraldtimes.com

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Sometimes the old window gets a little foggy, and stories, columns and features that show up do more justice to journalism than I ever could. Below are two health-related columns. The first is written by Margie Joy, the development and community relations manager at Pioneers Medical Center in Meeker on how to take care of yourself and your loved ones during this flu season. The second is by national columnist Ginny Grimsley, who tells us about a special woman with a terminal diagnosis and the personal joy she finds every day.

**Stay Healthy This Flu Season**

By MARGIE JOY  
Pioneers Medical Center

MEEKER | Taking care of your-

self and getting the flu vaccine is the best defense against the flu.

"Our best protection against any strain of influenza is common-sense practices," says Laura Cogswell, RN, and Pioneers Medical Center infection control officer. "Hand washing continues to be the best prevention to spreading germs. Additionally, those who are sick should avoid work or school for 24 hours after the fever is gone."

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends wearing a mask for three to five days while one is still coughing.

Pioneers Medical Center has had confirmed cases of influenza. So far, confirmed cases at PMC are slightly above average. Additionally, on the state level, confirmed cases are above average. Research shows low humidity climates areas are at higher risk for flu exposure. Also it is important to note that February is traditionally the highest month for the flu.

**Pioneers Medical Center encourages everyone to:**

- Get vaccinated. Continue to get your yearly flu shot. If you did not get a flu shot it is not too late. The seasonal flu vaccine protects against the three seasonal flu viruses that research suggests will be the most common.

Flu vaccines are very important for young children, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions (e.g. asthma, diabetes), and people over the age of 65 years and older.

While the flu vaccine cannot guarantee you will not get the flu, it will minimize your risk of contracting the flu. Additionally, it takes two weeks for the vaccine to activate in your system from the time you receive your flu shot.

- Take care every day. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you sneeze or cough. Throw the tissue away after you use it.

Wash your hands with soap and water, especially after sneezing or



coughing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective if used properly.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Stay home when you are sick. It is recommended to stay home at least 24 hours after your fever is gone. (Your fever should be gone without the aid of a fever-reducing medicine.)

- Take antiviral medication as prescribed. Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines (pill, liquid or inhaled powder) that fight against flu by keeping flu viruses from reproducing in your body. Be sure to use the proper dosage and complete the doctor-recommended regimen.

What are the signs and symptoms of influenza?

Fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, chills, headache, fatigue, diarrhea and vomiting.

If you are experiencing at least two of these symptoms, call your doctor for an appointment.

For more information about flu please call the Meeker Family Health Center at 970-878-4014.

**Would your holidays be different if you knew you had a terminal illness?**

By GINNEY GRIMSLEY  
National Print Campaign Mgr.  
News and Experts

**RBC |** Jane Schwartzberg cringes when she hears someone say that a terrible accident or frightening medical diagnosis made them realize what's important in life.

"In some ways, I do wish everyone could experience a taste of terminal, if that's what it takes to make them appreciate the intangible gifts we receive not just during the holidays, but all year," says Schwartzberg, co-author with Marcy Talkoff Levy of "Naked Jane Bares All," www.nakedjanebaresall.com, a new book that shares Jane's story with candor and humor.

"But I wish they'd known all along, and I hate the thought of goodness coming at the expense of so much suffering."

Schwartzberg says she was clear about what's most important before she was diagnosed with stage four incurable breast cancer.

As a mother, wife, daughter, sister, aunt and friend, she knew that all that really matters is how much love we give and receive.

The holidays are a wonderful opportunity for people to remember that and to focus on who they love,

Schwartzberg said. But, too often, they become a source of anxiety, stress and tension.

Financial concerns, having too much to do and missing loved ones were among the top causes of holiday stress, according to a recent Mental Health America survey.

"Although I won't attribute any revelations about what's most important in life to my illness, I can say that there are a few things that I am trying to do better since getting sick," Schwartzberg says.

"The holidays are a great time to cultivate a spirit of gratitude and to refocus on the things that are most meaningful."

**For Schwartzberg, those include:**

- Showing up. If you're worried about yesterday or always planning for tomorrow, you're missing the present moment and any wonderful experiences it may hold.

"Although my clock ticks louder than others, I know we are all here for a short time," Schwartzberg says. "I am determined to find joy in every single day. It may come from the simplest of things: a view from my window, a great conversation or a hot cup of coffee. But I know I need to be always present and available, with an open mind and open heart, to experience any of it."

- Riding her love train. We all have people in our lives who care about us, and it's important to let them know how much we appreciate them. Schwartzberg's "love train" is a metaphor for all of the people she chooses to share her life with.

"They are rooting me on and giving my family and me love and support," she says. "I try to be as meticulous and thoughtful as I possibly can be with those on board, and that means making sure they know how much I love and value them."

- Knowing my place in the world. There is a Jewish teaching

► See WINDOW, Page 5A

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Did you know there are about 150 human papillomavirus (HPV) strains? While usually harmless, HPV can develop into cancer.

Our pediatricians believe that the vaccine is more effective before becoming sexually active and they agree with the American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines that recommend the HPV vaccination for girls and boys ages 11 to 12.

There are lots of questions, and we encourage you to ask our family physicians, pediatricians or OB/GYN specialists about HPV testing and HPV vaccines.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RE-1 board declares fiscal emergency

Dear Editor:  
This is an open letter to all residents in Meeker School District-RE1. Last week, the Meeker Board of Education (MBE) approved current policy DBH and declared the school district in a fiscal emergency.

What does this mean? This policy states that the MBE has determined that the amount of funding appropriated for expenditure in the budget exceeds the actual revenue available to the district due to actions of the Colorado State Legislature and/or governor.

On Jan. 6, the Meeker School District (MSD) received final budget numbers from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This is the amount of money per pupil the state will send to the MSD for the current school year. The original funding was projected to be \$7,625 per pupil. The actual amount received by MSD is \$739 less per pupil than the projected amount CDE reported to the MSD in October.

What that means is the MSD will receive \$6,886 per-pupil funding, which is approximately \$500,000 less than expected.

How did this happen? That is the difficult part to explain.

Due to the complex school finance process, the money collected by local county property taxes through the assessed value is sent to the state each year. The state then uses all of the past legislation including the Gallagher Amendment of 1982, TABOR (Taxpayers Bill of Rights) of 1992, the Colorado School Finance Act of 1994, Amendment 23 and most recently SB-13-260 to determine how much money each school district will receive.

In Rio Blanco County, assessed values were approximately 15 percent lower than in the past two years. So, the negative factor that applies to the MSD went up (money sent back to the state) and the per-pupil funding (money received back from the state) went down significantly.

The MSD was anticipating the budget needed for the 2013-2014 school year to be more than what the MSD could afford by approximately \$540,000. Since the November mill levy override request failed to pass, the MSD was prepared to deal with this shortfall.

Now, with this new funding level presented by CDE, the MSD will be approximately \$1,003,000 short for this school year. Yes, that is over a million dollars short.

The annual school budget for

MSD is just under \$6 million dollars annually, so this is almost 20 percent of the entire budget.

Whose fault is this? This is not a result of current or past school board or superintendent decisions.

This is a result of some of the most complex school finance legislation imaginable.

In 2011, Colorado ranked 43rd in state funding for public education. Colorado spends approximately \$2,700 less per pupil than the national average. Neighboring states like Kansas spend more than \$2,400 more and Wyoming spends over \$10,000 more per pupil each year than Colorado.

What do we do? Meeker Schools Superintendent Mark Meyers will be convening a working group made up of school staff, two members of the school board and community members with the intent to explore all possible options to cut the current budget.

This group will make recommendations on spending in an effort to get through this year's difficult financial situation. This working group will also explore ideas addressing how to prepare for the long-term sustainability of MSD.

What we need from the Meeker community are ideas and suggestions on how we educate our kids under this legislative-dictated budget. In addition, we are looking for community members who are able to volunteer as members of this working group to help create a solid financial plan now and into the future. This working group will bring budget recommendations to the superintendent and the board of education.

The Meeker School District will also be hosting a public forum at 6 p.m. on Jan. 23 at Meeker High School to discuss this situation in an open setting.

Meeker Board of Education  
Bill deVergie  
President  
Meeker

Level playing field for local businesses

Dear Editor:  
This is an open letter of opinion to the businesses, organizations and diverse groups in Rio Blanco County.

As we all struggle to make ends meet and control our budgets to be fiscally responsible, it is even more important to circulate our business and monies within our communities. The focus of my concern is the solicitation and awarding of special events and/or catering business to a qualified merchant or business

owner. In particular, regarding food service events, it has become apparent that a number of events have been awarded to out-of-community merchants.

As members of the Rio Blanco community and Town of Meeker, we do not expect to receive preferential treatment in regard to these events. We certainly appreciate the opportunity to participate in the bidding process and are thankful for any business we may receive.

What we would like for everyone to understand is that a level and equal playing field is what anyone should expect.

We would like to list some important qualifications to be requested of any organization or individual bidding on a food service event:

- Liability Insurance Policy (in effect)
- Workers Compensation
- Sales Tax License
- Food Service and Compliance Inspection Report (current)
- Member of Meeker Chamber Commerce

With these requirements satisfied, we will begin to level the playing field and not just look at the least expensive options.

If anyone has any questions, please contact Henry at Ma Famiglia Restaurant (878-4141).

Henry Arcolesse  
Meeker

Amick announces retirement in 2015

Dear Editor:  
This is an open letter to all Rio Blanco County voters.

Jan. 13, 2015, will mark the end of my sixth term as Rio Blanco County Clerk, a position I've been honored to serve in over the past 23 years. I do want to let the voters of Rio Blanco County know that I will not be seeking another term.

The time has come to focus my time and attention on my dear family and friends.

Please know that I appreciate the confidence that you, the voters, have placed in me. I could not have asked for a more interesting and stimulating job that has tested my strength and challenged me in so many ways.

By far, the best benefit I have derived from being county clerk has been the day-to-day contact with the people of Rio Blanco County. The election judges I have had the privilege of working with are my heroes, returning each election to face long and stressful hours and whatever has been thrown to them by the Legislature, willing to do whatever it takes to make our democratic

process work. You are an amazing group and I will miss you.

I have been impressed by the commissioners, my fellow elected officials, department heads and county employees; the tough decisions they face and the integrity they bring to local government. Above all, I am forever indebted to my dedicated staff. They have stood beside me through dreaded changes and challenges, long and demanding hours and many a "hair-on-fire" crisis. I admire their commitment to serving each citizen and fully know that this job could never be accomplished without them.

From the start, I have been proud to call Rio Blanco County my home, but these past years as county clerk have given me the opportunity to discover the truly amazing collection of wonderful and diverse people who make up this county. I would not have wanted to serve anywhere else. So, in this last year, please be assured that I will continue to work to maintain your confidence in the office operations and the election processes.

Thank you for giving me these six terms with so many amazing experiences and treasured memories.

Nancy R. Amick  
Rio Blanco County Clerk  
Meeker

Thanks from the Coulter family

Dear Editor:

We would like to extend a special thank you to the Rio Blanco County Commissioners for approving the name change to Coulter Field at Meeker Airport.

We would also like to thank Mike Seely for making the new sign at the airport.

And last but certainly not least, we would like to thank GDA Engineers for the Nov. 30 airport field dedication to Gary.

The family of Gary Coulter  
Meeker

State veterans home makes difference

Dear Editor:  
Can individual acts make a difference? You bet.

The Colorado State Veterans Home knows this first hand. Over

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the holidays, veterans in our care have been remembered from our communities through an outpouring of gifts. These included handmade cards, Christmas goodies, hats, coats, mittens, scarves and donations.

To be remembered for their sacrifice has touched many hearts.

We also want to specifically thank the Parachute VFW for donating 100 shadow boxes to each of the veterans, spouses or gold star parents (whose only child was killed in action) who are under our care.

These shadow boxes are coming to life by family/friends working together with their loved one to display their memories. It not only reminds them of days past, but also

is a good conversation starter for the staff members here who provide their individualized care.

Each veteran/spouse/gold star parent's family will get the shadow box for their memory at the end of their loved one's stay here.

The Colorado State Veteran's Home currently has openings. We would love to serve any veteran, their spouse/widow, or gold star parents. If a veteran has a 70-percent or more service-connected disability, their stay with us is free.

Diane McCann  
Marketing Coordinator  
Colorado State and  
Veterans Nursing Homes  
Denver

RBC DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald — 125 years ago

■ J. Kircher of Hayden favored The Herald with a visit yesterday. Mr. Kircher is here to meet his family, which had been back visiting relatives in Kentucky.

■ Reinhold Hartke will open up a harness shop in the vacant room adjoining the Meeker Stables as soon as his stock arrives, which he sent for a few days ago.

■ Jay Hoff, the Yampa River horseman, is tarrying with us for a spell. Mr. Hoff is always a welcome visitor as things liven up considerable when he puts in an appearance.

■ Clarence P. Brown, one of our well-known and respected young men, departed this morning for his former home in New Jersey. Mr. Brown owns a valuable ranch almost adjoining town on which he has made some extensive improvements. We understand Clarence will not come back alone, but that he will be accompanied by a life partner. The Herald extends well-wishes and congratulations in advance.

The Meeker Herald — 75 years ago

■ Mr. and Mrs. Leo Stephensen were business visitors in Craig on Monday of this week.

■ Mr. Ted Harrison was seen in town on Wednesday of this week with his son, Allen.

■ Floyd Butts was over from his

Axial Basin home on Wednesday of this week, attending to business and visiting his brother, James Butts and family.

■ Mr. Paul Dunn made a business trip to Montrose on Saturday of this week, attending a stockmen's meeting as a member of the Fish and Game advisory board of the Izaak Walton League.

■ Mrs. P. A. Hausser left last week for her old home in Ohio, where she will visit relatives for a few weeks. Mr. Hausser took her as far as Rifle to the train.

The Meeker Herald — 25 years ago

■ Gene and Sheila Abney enjoyed their son, Larkin, and his wife, Kim, and daughter Maria, who came home for Christmas. On Dec. 17 Larkin reported to the Lackland (Texas) Air Force Base, where he will receive his basic training. Meanwhile, Kim plans to stay with her folks in Las Vegas, Nev.

■ Ray and Sharon Blazon had their son, Scott, home for Christmas. Scott left Dec. 27 to go to his first duty station in Millington, Tenn.

■ Wayne and Kathy Nielsen enjoyed having their son, Cory, home from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. Cory enjoyed being home with his family and friends and

► See DAYS, Page 11A

WINDOW: A good life

► Continued from Page 4A

that says everyone should carry with them two pieces of paper, each in a separate pocket. One paper should say, "I am but dust and ashes." The other, "The world was created for me."

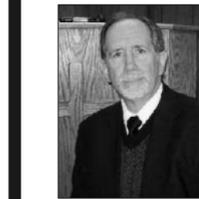
"I constantly remind myself that both statements are true," Schwartzberg said. "I am capable of incredible things to improve the world, and I am just a tiny speck in the universe. Powerfulness and humility can, and do, exist for me side by side."

As the holidays have now passed, keep in mind that the best gift you

can give in the time ahead — or receive — is love.

"It's not a table full of food or gadgets you can't afford," she says. "As this holiday season is over, act as if it could be your last, and you'll probably find much more to revel in than to stress about."

About Jane Schwartzberg: Jane Schwartzberg, 45, is the co-author of the newly released book, "Naked Jane Bares All," the many-layered story — told with humor and candor — of how she learned to embrace life when she was down for the count. Jane is a financial services executive and founder and former CEO of a start-up technology company.



Dr. J.D. Watson

Our Sovereign God (4)

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

THE counsel of his own will (Eph. 1:11). Oh, the staggering applications there are for us when we meditate on the sovereignty of God!

First, it deepens our view of God, which is certainly the most important. Who of us could possibly ponder this and not be changed? Does it not magnify His will, His plans, His purposes, His grace, and all else concerning His nature and work? This leads directly to a related truth.

Second, it lessens our view of self. Man has dethroned God and enthroned himself (Rom. 1:25), but all the "self-sins" that are part of human nature and culture are rebuked by this doctrine.

Third, it gives us a new view of security. What a future we have! We have been "sealed [by the Holy Spirit] unto the day of redemption" (Eph. 4:30; cf. 1:13), "predestinate[d] to be conformed to the image of [Christ]" (Rom. 8:29), can never be "separate[d] from the love of Christ" (v. 35), and have "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for [us]" (1 Pet. 1:4). How could we ever feel insecure?

Fourth, it gives us a new view of trust. We would dare conjecture that there has never been a Christian who has not at some point wondered what God was doing or wondered why He was doing a certain way. That was certainly Habakkuk's experience — he just could not understand how God could possibly use a wicked nation to bring about His purpose. Abram, however, was just the opposite. With no explanation or details, he simply trust God. No one puts it better than beloved Bible teacher Warren

Wiersbe: "We do not live by explanations; we live by promises." That principle will transform our lives.

Fifth, it gives us a new view of comfort and peace. When we fully realize that God is working all things for our good (Rom. 8:28) and that prayer brings the peace of God in our hearts (Phil. 4:6-7), we will also be able to say with the psalmist: "I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for Thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety" (Psalm 4:8). How can we not feel comfort and peace knowing that God is sovereign? It doesn't matter what turmoil rages around us, for we know that God is in control.

Sixth, it gives us a new view of provision. As the Apostle Paul assured a poor little church in Macedonia: "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). Our Lord made the same promise: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things [physical needs] shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). How can we not believe in the sovereignty of God when He makes promises like that? How can we not rejoice in His sovereignty when we see evidence of His provision every day of our lives?

Scriptures for Study: Read Matthew 6:25-34. What observations can you make from our Lord's promise and illustrations?

You are invited to worship with us at Grace Bible Church (on the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Garfield) at 10:30 A.M. each Lord's Day, where the ministry is the expository preaching of God's Word. Please visit our website (www.TheScriptureAlone.com), where you will find many resources for Christian growth, including messages in MP3 media files.

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# Pioneers Medical Center to Begin Construction

*Spring 2014*

**December 12, 2013** | Davis Partnership Architects presented the final design for the Pioneers Medical Center replacement facility. "We are proud to present a design that is efficient, cost-effective and has a style that fits with Meeker's culture," said J.D. Dreyer, Principal, Davis Partnership.

"The new medical campus will include several new features that will expand services and enhance our existing resume of service," says Ken Harman, PMC CEO. The Meeker Family Health Center will expand to 15 exam rooms; plus three procedure rooms and a waiting area dedicated to pediatric patients.

All ten of the hospital patient rooms will be private, two of the rooms are designed for hospice care, and two of the rooms are acuity adaptable which will allow us to better serve patients with more severe or intensive-type illness, including isolation and bariatric needs. The PMC pharmacy services will be equipped to provide some chemotherapies and infusion treatments.

The Walbridge Memorial Wing will now have 30-private rooms for the long-term care residents. The Wing will have two living rooms with fireplaces, a dining room with a baking center in it, and garden areas with raised planters. The current gazebo will be relocated to the new facility, to provide an outdoor gathering area for the residents.

Over the past 8-months Pioneers Medical Center and Davis Partnership have worked to design the new medical center. The architects have held four on-site meetings with each PMC department in order to present a design that addresses needs, services and processes. The patient/customer experience has been at the heart of every conversation.

Pioneers conducted two Needs Assessment Studies. Both studies evaluated the feasibility of remodeling the current facility. However, due to changing technology, healthcare delivery methods, and patient needs the current medical facility, located at 345 Cleveland, is no longer adequate for the delivery of care Pioneers is committed to offering.



Site Plan



MAIN ENTRY

The Emergency Entrance has a circle drive for patient ease. There is a separate Ambulance delivery area. The Ambulance area is on the other side of the wall.



### Utility Extension Project on Track to Begin Spring 2014

The water and sewer extension project is slated to begin in mid-2014. The extended line would begin from south/west of the Meeker Airport Road and extend to Curtis Creek Drive. The new utilities will service Curtis Creek Industrial Park, and the new Pioneers Medical Center Facility.

The project will cost an estimated \$4.7 million to provide robust water and sewer services and fire hydrants. Funding is provided by a coalition of local entities and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. The Town of Meeker, Meeker Sanitation District, Pioneers Medical Center, Rio Blanco County, and Meeker Fire & Rescue partnered to provide this much needed infrastructure to our community. In August, the group was awarded a \$825,000 grant to assist with the costs of the utilities. "This project will help provide utilities to businesses that are currently using septic and hauling water, the replacement facility for Pioneers Medical Center, and it will set the stage for future commercial development on the north end of town said Scott Meszaros," Town Manger of Meeker.

Haselden Construction was selected through a Request For Proposal process to act as the General Contractor. The project will be overseen by Meeker Sanitation District, the Town of Meeker and Pioneers Medical Center. In order to streamline costs and to create efficiencies; the utility project will be done in conjunction with the PMC facility replacement project, and is targeted to begin in May of 2014.

### Haselden Construction Begins Selecting Construction Partners

In March 2013, the Pioneers Medical Center Board of Directors selected Haselden Construction as the General Contractor to build the medical center replacement facility. "We are excited about the decision," says Paul Sheridan, Pioneers Board Chairman. "Haselden is the whole package. They have great medical facility experience, have worked in a variety of similar climates, and are a Colorado-based firm."

In the first week of December 2013 bids for the sub-contractor tasks of electrical, mechanical and plumbing, were received through a formal bid process. Ducey's Electric of Meeker, and Encore Electric of Denver, have been selected for the electrical components. Mtech of Denver was selected for the mechanical, and Falcon Plumbing of Grand Junction, was selected for the plumbing work.

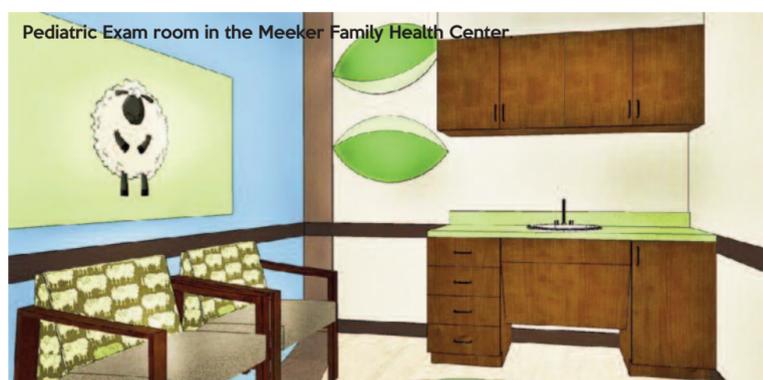
Haselden is working with the engineers to finalize the site design this month. A Request For Proposal will be posted in January for contractors interested in the excavation and dirt work. They expect to select the contractor for excavation work in February 2014 with the goal of beginning construction work in March.



LOBBY INTERIOR



Private Walbridge Wing Room



Pediatric Exam room in the Meeker Family Health Center



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www.pioneershospital.org

## Lady Cowboys start 2014 basketball with a bang

By HALLIE BLUNT  
Special to the Herald Times

**MEEKER I** The Meeker High School girls' basketball team started the new year and regular season off with a bang, winning three big games and beating the always-tough Paonia Eagles in Paonia to finish off their weekend, which began Thursday night against Plateau Valley.

"We played well for not playing for a month," coach Greg Chintala said. The lady Cowboys came out strong and "...jumped out to an early lead and never looked back," Chintala added.

Meeker led 33-10 at half and finished up 25 points for a commanding 51-26 win.

Hotchkiss came to town Friday night and brought a competitive team. Meeker did not shoot the ball well and trailed 14-11 after the first quarter. However, their defense took control, holding the Bulldogs to just four points in the second quarter, giving the lady Cowboys a

three-point lead going into the locker room.

Meeker came out with new intensity in the third quarter. "We pulled away in the third and had an 11-point cushion going into the fourth quarter," Chintala said.

Despite foul trouble, the team kept its composure, continued their solid defense and won the game 40-32.

The team traveled to Paonia for the third game of the weekend, one they knew would be an extremely tough battle.

"We started the game with a quick two points about 15 seconds into the game, then 15 seconds later Paonia tied the score, and that was our last lead for some time."

The lady Cowboys trailed by two at the end of the first quarter.

"We played well for 15 minutes and 30 seconds of the first half, but we gave up six points in the last 30 seconds of the half," Chintala said.

Meeker trailed by eight at the half, but the team showed they have tremendous heart to go

with their talent. The girls began their comeback with great defense and turned that into offensive opportunities. They cut into the lead by one after the third and gained the confidence they needed. The group of girls proved once again the importance of team play and absolute determination to win as they fought back in the fourth quarter.

Chintala said, "We were down seven with a little over two and a half minutes to play. We tied the score with 5.9 seconds to play. After about three time-outs, Paonia inbounded the ball and we ended up stealing the ball."

Sydney Hughes came out of a group of girls with the basketball, and was fouled. Even Paonia knew they had made a mistake in fouling Hughes as she stepped to the line to sink the game-winning free throw.

This completed an impressive run that seemed to epitomize what this team is about - hard work, competitiveness and teamwork.

"I am very proud of the girls and the way they played this weekend," Chintala said.



Rio Blanco County seniors Taylor Neilson of Meeker and Tessa Slagle of Rangely prepare for a rebound during a game Tuesday in Meeker.



Ten athletes at Rangely High School were named to the first team all-state academic team and one to the honorable mention all-state team last week by the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA). In the front row, from the left, are: McKale Pennell (first team, football); Tessa Slagle (first team, cross-country); Aimee Hogan (first team, volleyball); and Chelsea Ficken (first team, volleyball). In the back row are, from left, are: Tanner Nielsen (first team, cross country); Ethan Allred (first team, football); Colt Allred (first team, football); Layne Mecham (honorable mention, football); Mitchell Webber (first team, cross country); and Cameron Enterline (first team, football). Not pictured is Simone Heinle (first team, volleyball).

MATT SCOGGINS

## Wrestling team hosts defending state champs

By BOBBY GUTIERREZ  
bobby@theheraldtimes.com

**MEEKER I** The Meeker Cowboy wrestling team appreciated the crowd support in their first home dual of the season and are hoping for more crowd support Friday when the defending state champion Paonia Eagles come to town.

"It was nice to have the great support from the community," head coach J.C. Watt said of the large crowd attending the first home meet of the season.

In a new scheduling twist, the Meeker girls' basketball team played and defeated Plateau Valley before the wrestling mat was placed in the middle of the court for five matches between Grand Valley and Meeker wrestlers.

Meeker's J.C. Henderson (138), Kylo Goedert (126) and Nick Burri (120) all won their matches, Henderson 16-2, Goedert and Burri by pin. Devon Pontine (160) and Aaron Cochran (132) both wrestled but lost. The match against Grand Valley was Cochran's first match of the season.

Friday, the Cowboys traveled with 11 varsity and eight JV wrestlers to Vernal, Utah for the 41st annual Tournament of Champions, which



Meeker senior J.C. Henderson wrestled eight matches in the Tournament of Champions, winning five and placing eighth at 138. Henderson is pictured defeating his opponent from Grand Valley 16-2.

BOBBY GUTIERREZ

## Several RHS students named to Academic All-State teams

Special to the Herald Times

**RANGELY I** Several Rangely High School athletes have been named to the Colorado academic all-state teams by the Colorado High School Activities Association and one to the honorable mention list.

Criteria to be chosen to the first team are: 3.60 or higher cumulative grade point average; minimum junior academic standing; must be a letter winner or equivalent in the activ-

ity nominated for; and the winner must be a participant in a CHSAA-sponsored activity during the current season.

RHS football players chosen to the first team are Ethan Allred and Cameron Enterline.

Volleyball players named to the first team all-state list are Aimee Hogan, McKale Pennell, Chelsea Ficken and Simone Heinle.

Cross-country members of first-team all-state are Tessa Slagle,

Mitchell Webber and Tanner Nielsen.

Criteria for honorable mention all-state are: 3.30 to 3.59 cumulative grade point average; minimum junior academic standing; must be a letter winner or equivalent in the activity nominated; and must be a participant in a CHSAA-sponsored activity during current season.

A member of the RHS football team named honorable mention all-state was Layne Mecham.

## Ladies lose games, players

By HALLIE BLUNT  
Special to the Herald Times

**RANGELY I** The Rangely High School girls' basketball team started its game in Paonia playing great defense, holding the Eagles to one point in the first three minutes.

However the defensive pressure became a factor as Rangely fell behind at quarter's end and could not convert offensively.

The Panthers continued to play good defense but lost sophomore guard Carrie Goddard due to broken bones in her hand. Senior post player Chelsea Ficken broke her fibula during the game.

Without two key players, Rangely was short-handed against one of the toughest teams in the league, and their efforts came up short.

The lady Panthers played Hotchkiss on Saturday, and coach Quinton Kent said, "We looked like an almost new team as far as personnel was concerned."

The Panthers were not only missing the two starters from the previous night, but senior Tessa Slagle missed the game due to a scholarship presentation. Lone senior Aimee Hogan was combined with three juniors and four freshmen for the game.

"Considering our circumstances, we were pleased with how the girls played," Kent said. The lady Panthers lost the game by a final score of 59-23.

The Panthers played Meeker on Tuesday night and hosts West Grand tonight before getting a break going into the following week.

## Panthers compete at Vernal TOC

By BOBBY GUTIERREZ  
bobby@theheraldtimes.com

**RANGELY I** The Rangely Panthers wrestling team traveled to Vernal, Utah, with seven wrestlers for the very competitive Tournament of Champions.

The Panthers will wrestle at home this weekend, hosting a triangular meet with Olathe and Hayden on Friday. Rangely will host the first annual Vern Rose Memorial Wrestling Tournament on Saturday. The late Vern Rose was a great supporter of the Panthers wrestling program.

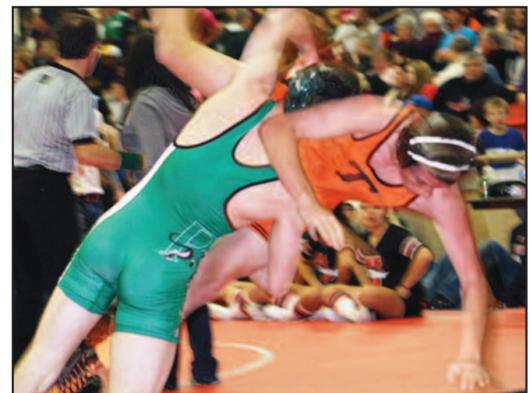
Rangely senior Lucas Heinle won two matches Friday in Vernal, advancing to Saturday's rounds still in the championship bracket. However, he lost to a wrestler from Pleasant Grove to finish with two wins and two losses in the 152-pound bracket.

"This was a tough tournament, like we expected," head coach Jeff Heinle said of the 41st annual Tournament of Champions.

Caleb Lawson also won two matches in the 145-pound bracket and Ethan Allred won three at 160 before being eliminated. Heath Peters (132) and Nych DeLeon (138) both won a match in their respective weights. Kiki Ruiz wrestled three JV matches at 138 but did not win any. Ryan Wilczek also found the competition tough in the 195-pound bracket, where he went 0-3.

Teams from Meeker, Hayden, Soroco, West Grand, Steamboat Springs, Glenwood Springs, Olathe, Grand Junction, Grand Junction Central, Palisade and Fruita will all send JV teams, Moffat County and Hotchkiss will also be in attendance.

Wrestling starts Friday at 7 p.m., and at 9 a.m. on Saturday.



Panther senior Caleb Lawson won two matches in the Tournament of Champions and will represent his team in the 145-pound bracket Saturday in the first annual Vern Rose Memorial Tournament in Rangely, starting at 9 a.m.

BOBBY GUTIERREZ



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## Champions of the Week

Set yourself apart.



### KAULAN BRADY, SOPHOMORE Rangely High School

Brady led the Panthers in scoring against Paonia and Hotchkiss, recording 14 and 16 points respectively, including eight baskets from behind the three-point arch.

### SYDNEY HUGHES, JUNIOR Meeker High School

Hughes went to the free-throw line in Paonia last Saturday with one second on the clock, she scored tied at 36 and made the first shot of a one-and-one to win the game.



# BMS girls open season at home

By HALLIE BLUNT  
Special to the Herald Times

**MEEKER I** Barone Middle School girls' basketball teams began their season Saturday against Craig Middle School. Both the seventh- and eighth-grade teams had games for A, B and C levels.

The seventh grade A-team started the morning off with a very effective press, taking control of the game in the second quarter, carrying an eight-point lead into half. The game was close early with first-game jitters, creating a lower shooting percentage. But once the lady Cowboys scored, their defense triggered their offense.

Meeker held the lead through the second half and came away with a great first win of the season, setting the stage for an outstanding C-team matchup that went into overtime. The Meeker girls played hard and had great teamwork that

eventually led the team to a two-point victory.

The B-team played well but fell behind in the second quarter. The team never made up the deficit as the game continued. Overall, the seventh graders looked very strong to start their season and they look forward to their game tonight and Saturday against Soroco and Steamboat Springs.

The eighth-grade team had an outstanding C-team game as well. The game was extremely close and came down to the end before Craig won the game.

The Bulldogs' defense proved to be a challenge for the A and B teams, but coach Kris Casey expects great improvement from the girls, four of whom had never played the game before this season. They are all working very hard in practice and certainly have a great deal of basketball ahead of them.

# Cowboys exciting on the court

By HALLIE BLUNT  
Special to the Herald Times

**MEEKER I** The challenge of a high school basketball game is the ability to put together 32 minutes of good basketball. The Meeker boys' basketball team is doing just that this season as they have proved time and time again they can play with good teams.

The Cowboys played Hotchkiss on Friday night and Paonia on Saturday.

Coach Klark Kindler said, "We played well for two quarters in both games and not so well in two quarters. We need to work on putting

four good quarters together."

On Friday night, the Cowboys came out very strong and jumped to a 16-10 first-quarter lead. They struggled shooting the ball in the second quarter and trailed by one at intermission. They had an outstanding fourth quarter but could not make up the five point deficit from the third quarter. The team gave itself opportunities to take the lead but could only convert 38 percent of their free throws, missing 10 key shots.

The team was led by Jeremy Musgrave with 14 points and Dylan Mobley had 10, followed by Raul Lopez with nine and Ty Dunham

finished with eight.

The Cowboys took their game on the road Saturday against a very tough Paonia team. Meeker once again came out strong, taking an early 16-12 first quarter lead. They continued their solid play through the first half, leading 29-22 at half time.

The shooting percentage went down for Meeker in the second half and, despite an outstanding effort, the Cowboys fell by three, 44-41, at the final buzzer.

The team was led Raul Lopez, who scored 18 points, followed by Ty Dunham's seven and Joe Newman's six points.

The Cowboys showed they will be a team to reckon with as the season progresses, and one that can be a "tournament team" by post-season.

The exciting play of the upperclassmen and continued improvement by the younger players is making for an exciting season of basketball.

Meeker and Rangely played Tuesday with the Cowboys winning 65-52 in an exciting game.

The Cowboys will travel to Kremmling on Friday to play the West Grand Mustangs, home on Saturday for a league game against the North Park Wildcats.

# RHS Panthers lose three in a row

By BOBBY GUTIERREZ  
bobby@theheraldtimes.com

**RANGELY I** The Rangely Panthers boys' basketball team lost 50-47 to the Paonia Eagles at home last Friday, then lost 57-43 to the Bulldogs in Hotchkiss on Saturday. The Panthers played the Cowboys in Meeker on Tuesday and lost 65-52, now Rangely will host West Grand

tonight, starting at 6 p.m.

"Even though we are disappointed with the results of these individual games, there is no doubt that if we correct a few very correctable errors, the next time we play each of these teams we'll be in a great position to win," head coach Eric Hejl said of the court experience his team is getting. "When we look at our season as a whole, that is really what it's all about."

The Panthers led the Eagles until late in the fourth quarter, when a turnover and technical foul changed

the lead and outcome for the Panthers.

"We've got to do a better job of holding the lead and putting teams away when we have the opportunity, otherwise, we set ourselves up for potential outcomes like this one," Hejl said. "With about one minute left to play, we were still up by two, but we had a turnover at half court that led to a layup and a technical foul for one of our guys slapping the backboard. By the time we got the ball back, we were suddenly down by three and couldn't get a last-chance three to fall on our next possession."

Kaulan Brady led the Panthers with 16 points, Mitchell Webber added 10, Connor Phelan finished with nine, while Cameron Enterline, Andrew Morton and Colt Allred, each added four. Enterline led the team with 11 rebounds.

Against Hotchkiss, coach Hejl said, "It was a different type of game with a similar result."

The Panthers trailed 6-17 at the end of the first quarter, then by 12 at halftime. Both teams scored 15 in the third period and Rangely could get no

closer.

"It took us an entire quarter to wake up and get into the game, lots of poor shots, poor defense and turnovers got us in a 13-0 hole early," Coach Hejl said. "For the next two quarters, we were able to keep them from stretching the lead, but it wasn't until the fourth quarter when we really started to make a run.

"Kaulan shot well from outside the arc again and Cam and Mitch really did some good physical work inside," he said. "With about two to three minutes left we had rallied to make it a three-point game, but it was too little, too late and we just didn't have the energy to finish off the comeback.

Brady again led the Panthers in scoring with 14, Phelan added 12 and Enterline finished with nine.

Against Meeker on Tuesday, the Panthers led 19-15 after the first quarter but trailed by one at halftime, never to see the lead again. Meeker led by eight at the end of the third quarter and ended up winning by 13.

"This weekend will go a long way in helping us refocus and make sure we are playing our best basketball when it matters the most, and that's in February and March," Hejl said.

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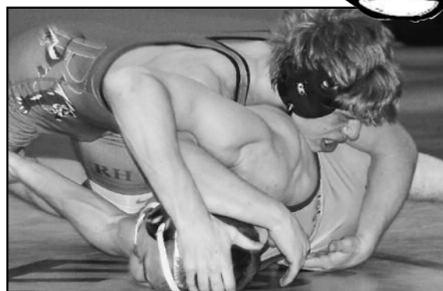
# RANGELY PANTHERS

GO PANTHERS!

**RHS Mens' & Ladies' Basketball**  
1/16 @ West Grand - 4:30, 6  
1/24 @ HOME vs. Plateau Vly - 4, 5:30, 7  
1/25 @ DeBeque (B V, JV I G V) 1, 2:30  
1/31 vs. Hayden 4, 5:30, 7

**RHS Wrestling**  
1/17 @ HOME (Triangular) - TBD  
1/18 @ HOME (Invitational) - TBD  
1/23 @ Triangular @ TBD  
1/25 @ Steamboat Tournament  
1/31 @ Ignacio Dual

**RMS Girls' Basketball**  
1/17 @ Meeker - 4:30  
1/18 @ HOME vs. Craig - 9am  
1/25 @ HOME vs. Meeker - 9am



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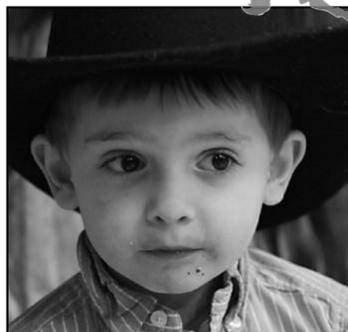
# MEEKER COWBOYS

**MHS LADY'S BASKETBALL**  
1/17 @ West Grand - 4, 5:30  
1/18 @ HOME vs. North Park - 12, 1:30  
1/21 @ HOME vs. Battle Mtn. - 4, 5:30  
1/24 @ HOME vs. Debeque (C-Team) 5:30

**MHS MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
1/17 @ West Grand - 4, 7:00  
1/18 @ HOME vs. North Park - 12pm, 3pm  
1/21 @ HOME vs. Battle Mtn. - 4, 7:00  
1/24 @ HOME vs. Debeque - 4, 7:00

**MHS WRESTLING**  
1/17 @ HOME vs. Paonia - TBD  
1/18 @ Rangely Tournament - TBD  
1/23 @ Moffat County Dual - TBD

**BMS GIRLS' BASKETBALL**  
1/16 @ HOME vs. Rangely - 5pm



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# REVIEW: County hires project coordinator; BedRock Depot turns 10 years old

► Continued from Page 1A

week that they then share with followers on various social media outlets, including Tumblr, Twitter, Pinterest and Facebook.

■ The Milk Creek Fire, 15 miles northeast of Meeker and 3.5 miles east of Yellowjacket Pass, was reported July 4. Attack resources responded immediately.

■ The Western Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District (WRBM) ramped up its Fourth of July offerings for the second year running, coming away with definite winners and plans to change timing details in the future.

■ The AT&T tower under construction south of Meeker on County Road 13 has been hit with a “stop work order,” which puts an instant halt to continuing work on the equipment building at the site. While the “stop work order” was revoked after only a few days when the problem was taken care of, the tower was still not working by late in the year.

■ In a survey of county residents undertaken by the Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners and then-County Administrator Kimberly Bullen in June, folks who live in the county are relatively happy living in the county and with county governmental operations.

There were some glitches along the way, however, as not everyone was happy with how the county government is run and with some other happenings within the county, many of which have little or nothing to do with county government itself.

■ Firefighters had made progress as of July 24, in battling the Citadel and East Tschuddi fires in Moffat and Rio Blanco counties, respectively. The fires were continuing to grow slowly, but containment has increased.

■ Town and county entities have pledged to work with the Bureau of Land Management to clean up renege dump sites around the county. A camera system scheduled to be fully installed by next summer will help identify dumpers and assist the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Land Management in ticketing those who break the law.

■ The BedRock Depot celebrated its official 10th anniversary, last summer. Owners Leona Hemmerich and Bill Mitchem have built the shop's reputation on quality gift shop items and food offerings, among them fresh vegetables, homemade rolls and hand-dipped ice cream.

■ Three Meeker High School students — incoming sophomore Jenna Walsh and incoming seniors Piper Haney and Aly Ridings — traveled to Nashville, Tenn., to compete in the National Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competition after earning top gold at the state competition in Denver in April. This is the third year Haney and Ridings have earned top gold at the state competition and gone on to nationals.

■ The water slide saw heavy use on Saturday as the ERBM Recreation and Park District filled the park with events during its community appreciation day on the courthouse lawn in Meeker. The water slide offered fun, thrills and acrobatics on the way down and a cool pool of water at the bottom as Saturday was hot and humid for those who attended the event.

■ Kyler Smith, a recent graduate of Rifle High School, won the two-day Lischke Memorial Golf Tournament in Meeker and will return Monday to play in his final Junior Golf Tournament on Meeker's course. Smith, who recently turned 18, started golfing in the Meeker Junior Golf Tournament when he was 13 and he has won it every year since.

■ Rangely racers competed at the Western Conference Finals at Bandimere Speedway in Morrison, Colo. With kids aged 8 to 17 from 15 different states competing, this is the toughest race of the year. Dylan LeBleu finished as a runner-up in the 10-year-old division, losing to a California racer in the finals on a break out. Whitney Rusher raced for her first time this year at the finals in the 8- and 9-year-old division and her brother, Justin Rusher, raced in the 11-year-old division.

■ A Colorado native born in



An early October snow storm caused heavy tree damage around Rio Blanco County.

Denver has accepted an offer to return to the state and take the position as principal at Meeker High School.

Dr. Kimberly L. Ibach, DE, who has been assistant principal for instruction at Ben L. Smith High School in Guilford County, N.C., will take over the position left vacant at Meeker High School due to the resignation of Jeremy Voytko.

■ Twenty teams competed in the annual 27-hole, two-man tournament in two flights at Cedar Ridges Golf Course in Rangely with several players from out of town and more are expected to play in the couples tournament Saturday and Sunday.

“These are the two biggest tournaments of the year for us, back to back,” course manager Chris Hejl said of the one just played and the upcoming couples tournament.

■ Feeling there has been little progress in the recent past, even on small projects, the Rio Blanco County Commissioners are looking forward to the work to be done by new county project coordinator Eric Jacquez, who has started work at the newly created job.

■ U.S. Sen. Mark Udall congratulated nine of Colorado's regional airports, including Rangely Airport, on getting a share of more than \$6.1 million in competitive U.S. Department of Transportation grants. The grant for \$329,050 is going to Rangely Airport in Rio Blanco County to improve its automatic weather observing system.

■ The White River National Forest falls within Tier 1 and began implementation of the adaptive man-

agement strategy for Spring Cave on Aug. 1. Open and closed periods for Spring Cave were developed around seasonal bat activity including “swarming” and use of the cave during the winter months as a hibernaculum.

■ For a sixth straight year, the Rangely Hurricane Swim team has won the Colorado Seasonal Club State Championship meet and also claim the state's best 15-18 club swimmer. Swimming for the Hurricanes in Canon City were Timothy and Mary Scoggins, Timothy and William Scoggins, Andrew Morton and

Korrynn Wenzel. Morton was the high point winner in the 15-18 division.

■ Meeker played host to the Colorado OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) Coalition (COHVCO) 2nd annual White River OHV Rendezvous.

The Meeker Chamber of Commerce, Meeker downtown businesses and the Wagon Wheel OHV Club are working with COHVCO to organize this great event, showcasing the fabulous Wagon Wheel OHV Trail System.

■ For the first three weeks of

August, Armando Lopez and his team from Elite Environmental Services did asbestos abatement and demolition to clear the area of the last portions of asbestos in the Rector Building on the Colorado Northwestern Community College campus in Rangely.

■ The plan by the Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners to hire a full-time county administrator has officially be put on hold for now, commission Chairman Shawn Bolton said.

The county administrator's position has been vacant since former administrator Kimberly Bullen resigned from the post in April. The commissioners did put out a call for resumes from those interested in the vacant position, and 10 people applied.

■ Four plans were suggested for the new Rio Blanco County Justice Center on the old Meeker Elementary School site during an Aug. 13 workshop held by the county commissioners.

■ Rio Blanco County's first confirmed case of West Nile Virus was announced Aug. 20 with the word that

a horse located along County Road 7 (Strawberry) had died following a bout with the virus.

■ For the second year in a row, Encana Oil & Gas Inc. awarded the Rangely School District with a \$10,500 grant dedicated to helping enhance the innovation and creativity in Rangely classrooms.

■ The Bureau of Land Management announced that Phase 2 of the Jensen-Ute Park connection trail north of Meeker is complete.

The 4.5-mile trail across China Wall, overlooking Meeker, provides unique views while connecting Philip and Dorcas Jensen Memorial Park with Ute Park, west of the town. The Town of Meeker along with ERBM Recreation and Park District partnered with the BLM to construct the trail, which also provides access to other trails.

■ Ace Trucking of Rangely entered the 2013 Coed League tournament undefeated and the No. 1 seed, but lost in the semifinals, forcing them

► See REVIEW, Page 10A

## SERTOMA GUN SHOW

January 18th: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

January 19th: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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DATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 26TH

TIME: SOCIAL HOUR AT 4:30PM

DINNER AT 5:00PM

LOCATION: FAIRFIELD CENTER

- John Swartout, Special Assistant Colorado Department of Natural Resources will speak on the Greater Sage Grouse
- Mike Collins, NRCS Area Conservationist will speak about Soil Health
- Conservation District activities to include 2013 Accomplishments and 2014 Goals
- Conservation Awards

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# REVIEW: Canadian wins annual Meeker Classic Sheepdog Trials as 125 compete

► Continued from Page 1A

to come back and defeat the defending champs, Rangely True Value Hardware, twice in a row to win the title.

■ A mural that now adorns the east side of Shepherd's Office Outfitters was unveiled and dedicated after a torrential rain. The mural, drawn by well-known Glenwood Springs muralists Kristos and Noemi Kosmowski, won the honor by placing first in a contest sponsored by Shepherds and the Meeker Arts and Cultural Council (MACC) last year.

■ The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) awarded the Town of Meeker an \$825,000 grant to assist with extending the water and sanitation utilities to the Curtis Creek Industrial Park and out to Thornburgh Road.

■ After two weeks of two-a-day practices, the Meeker Cowboys played another team for the first time Friday in Grand Junction, then returned home to host the annual Cowboy Kickoff Classic golf tournament after a big win.

The Cowboys defeated the Central Warriors' JV team, 50-22.

■ The Meeker Town Board voted 5-1 to pass an ordinance making it illegal for the retail sales of recreational marijuana in town.

The vote of the board was not unanimous as its rejection of the ordinance as Trustee Regas Halandras voted against the ban.

■ The annual Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials began with 125 teams of dogs and handlers taking part. Participants are from all over the United States as well as Canada, South Africa and Brazil. The classic continued toward the finals on Sunday. In addition to the trials, there are a number of vendors on the premises at Ute Park offering food and other goodies. Visitors are urged to take the trolley or shuttle from downtown Meeker to the site on the west end of town.

■ A local group of volunteers, Pioneers Medical Center and Pioneers Healthcare Foundation (PHF) are excited to announce a newly formed hospice-related partnership with HopeWest.

■ Several hundred family members and individuals took part in the Rangely Museum's Ice Cream Social at the museum on the east end of town on Sunday as part of Septemberfest.

■ The final day at the 2013 Meeker Classic was spellbinding to the very end.

Dennis Gellings of Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada, the winner of the 2008 Meeker Classic, had an almost flawless run first thing Sunday morning, posting a winning score of 139.

■ Meeker Golf Course is absolutely beautiful this year, largely due to the endless time and effort Jim Cook has put in over his near 20-year career. It has been a family effort over the years for Jim, his wife Debbie, and two daughters Jennifer (Steve) Vandyke, and Wendy (Jason) Lay.

Cook is retiring at the end of the season.

■ White River Electric Association celebrated its annual stockholders' meeting Sept. 11 at the Fairfield Community Center, also commemorating the Sept. 11 anniversary with a moment of silence and a

patriotic theme.

In addition, the board and membership celebrated retiring general manager Dick Welle's impressive 38-year career at WREA while welcoming new general manager Alan Michalewicz to the WREA family.

■ Alyssa Mae Magalong, 19, the daughter of Maria and Felix Magalong Jr. of Colorado Springs and a sophomore at Colorado Northwestern Community College, represented Colorado as Miss Colorado Teen 2013 at The Pageant-US National, which was held in California on Aug. 13-18, winning the national title of Pageant Teen 2013-US National.

■ Volunteers served up fresh-baked bread along with three homemade soups made from locally harvested vegetables and meat at Thursday's Harvest Bowls Festival in Rangely. The event raised more than \$7,500 for four local organizations and global relief organization Help One Now.

■ Several hundred persons attended Saturday's dedication of Sanderson Park in Meeker, where races, games, playground equipment and free food in the form of bratwursts, wraps, veggie burgers and other goodies were well utilized by those in attendance. The park is also the trail head for a 4.5-mile trail that unites Sanderson Park with Ute Park on the west end of town in a joint venture between the Bureau of Land Management and the ERBM Recreation District.

■ Mountain Valley Bank and co-sponsors White River Electric Association and the ERBM Recreation District combined efforts through the annual Mountain Valley Bank Fall Festival in Meeker on Saturday. The event affords non-profit organizations the chance to raise funds for their yearly projects. Several hundred area residents and tourists enjoyed the food, games, races, contests, food auctions and sunshine during the event.

■ In a surprise move, Shell Oil announced it will be shutting down its research and development in the upper Piceance Basin area of Rio Blanco County, southeast of Rangely.

■ There will be seven candidates vying for four seats on the Meeker School District RE-1 Board of Trustees in the Nov. 5 general election.

■ The 8th Annual Scrub Shirt Classic Race on Saturday hosted almost 125 participants.

"We are thrilled to see so many people participate in the 5K walk, run or stroll event," said Curtis Cooper, the event coordinator and Pioneers Medical Center IT manager. "We wanted everyone to have fun and to know that no matter what the fitness level, getting out and moving is a healthy choice."

Tevin Pelloni ran the race with the best time of 24 minutes, 16 seconds. He led his sixth-grade teammates in the fifth grade vs. sixth grade challenge.

■ An early fall storm dropped between five and eight inches of snow on Meeker and Rangely on Thursday night and early Friday, knocking out many county residents' power for the better part of two days and severely damaging hundreds of trees and closing streets in both towns.

■ The 2013 volleyball season is in full swing and every match counts. Meeker Coach Christy Atwood said, "Getting wins and capitalizing

on the game plans we have been working on are going to be critical."

The Meeker girls did just that over the weekend getting two more wins, extending their winning streak and setting themselves up for a successful post season.

■ Five candidates vying for two Rangely School District RE-4 school board positions discussed government control of education and the district's challenges and strengths, among other topics, at a Meet the Candidates forum sponsored by the Rangely Community Education Association (RCEA) on Oct. 9.

■ The middle school volleyball season came to a conclusion Saturday with Rio Blanco County sweeping the A-team brackets. The eighth-grade A-bracket and tournament were the final touches on a perfect season for the Panthers.

■ At approximately 2:45 a.m. on Oct. 19, the Rangely Police Department responded to a call of a possible burglary and assault that evolved into an incident in which one man allegedly shot another.

The incident took place at the Buck 'n' Bull RV Camper Park, located just east of Rangely.

■ The Rangely Panther football team will take a two-game winning streak into the Colorado State 8-man football playoffs Friday in Kiowa after whipping the Blue Jays in Mancos, 42-6, in its final game of the regular season.

■ Caleb Lange, a senior at Meeker High School, and MHS freshman Julia Eskelson represented their school and town at the 2013 Colorado State Cross Country Championships in Colorado Springs on Saturday.

■ Four county youths competed and placed in many classes at the recent Northern International Livestock Exposition in Billings, Mont., including Macy Collins, Destinee Bland, Tristan Hall and Trevor Austin.

■ The Rangely Panther football team ended its season in the first round of the Colorado State 8-Man playoffs Friday with a 40-14 loss to the Indians in Kiowa.

■ Tuesday was a bad day for those backing any kind of tax increase as Amendment 66 at the state level and Ballot Issue 3A in Meeker failed to carry a majority of voters. In addition, the Meeker and Rangely school districts picked their new school board members for four-year terms.

Rio Blanco County Clerk and Recorder Nancy R. Amick said Tuesday, before the election voting was complete, that this election had the best turnout in more than 20 years.

■ Six students in Meeker High School's 2014 senior class have already made up their minds that their future will involve the military and serving America through various branches of the Armed Forces.

The six future graduates headed toward military service of some kind after their graduation from MHS include Emilee Kohls, Kenny Kohls, Jordan Smith, JC Henderson, Torrie Gerloff and Kelly Denny.

■ Chris Archuleta, a graduate of Meeker schools and a representative of Chevron, presented a check worth \$15,000 to Iris Franklin, left, president of the Meeker School District Board of Education, on Tuesday night. Archuleta said Chevron's only stipulation for the check is that the



The Rangely Rock Crawlers were one of many entries in the Septemberfest parade and car show in Rangely over the Labor Day weekend.

school has to use the money for educational materials with emphasis on math and science.

■ Safety Specialist Ross Alire of Chevron presented a donation check in the amount of \$5,000 to Rangely Elks Lodge No. 1907. The donation will go towards the Christmas basket program for the needy families of Rangely and Dinosaur.

■ It was quite a diverse year in Rio Blanco County. The temperature from the year's coldest to the year's warmest, as recorded from Jan. 1 to the end of October, spanned 129 degrees.

■ Ron Eye, a master carver from Vernal, Utah, commissioned to create three sculptures for Colorado Northwestern Community College, used a Stihl chainsaw to coax a Spartan from the stump of a Chinese elm tree. Eye, who completed a 16-foot sculpture for Meeker's Highlands Cemetery last week, swept June's "Whittle the Wood Rendezvous" in Craig, winning first place in the judge's, artist's and people's choice categories.

■ Joe Dungan of Meeker, the veterans' service officer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Meeker, spoke to roughly 150 people late Monday morning during the VFW's Veterans Day service next to the Rio Blanco County Veteran's Memorial in front of the Rio Blanco County Courthouse.

■ The Meeker High School varsity volleyball team (above), which included freshman Jenna Walsh, seniors Aly Ridings, Taylor Neilson and Piper Haney, juniors Sydney Hughes, Reagan Pearce and Jamie McLaughlin and freshman Maggie Phelan, juniors Paige Jones and Megan Parker and freshman Lori Ann Klinglesmith, lined up twice on one of five courts in the Denver Coliseum for matches in the 2013 Colorado State Volleyball Championships. Meeker qualified as regional champions for the big show, which included championships in all five classifications, and they defeated Ridgeway for a second time in as many weeks, but lost to the eventual 2A state champions, Resurrection Christian, in pool play.

■ A 28-year-old man with a Canon City address who has been living in Rangely for an undisclosed amount of time has been charged with felony assault in the first degree fol-

lowing a lengthy investigation into the alleged shooting of another Rangely resident early Oct. 19 at the Buck 'n' Bull RV Park, according to court records.

Gary Edward Newby was arrested and charged in the aftermath of what appears to be the alleged assault and shooting of Joseph Duncan, also 28, who is also a resident of the RV park.

■ On Monday, the Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners authorized County Project Coordinator Eric Jaquez to begin contract negotiations with the Denver-based firm of Reilly Johnson Architecture regarding design of the county justice center and remodel of the courthouse.

■ The new Meeker Board of Education for the 2013-14 year was seated Tuesday night with those elected Nov. 5 and new officers. Bill deVergie was re-elected, and he will be the new board president; Dan Chinn, newly elected; Mindy Burke will be vice president; Bud Ridings, newly elected; Marnell Bradfield will be secretary/treasurer; Kurt Blunt; and newly elected Todd Shults.

■ The two new members of the Rangely School District RE-4 elected on Nov. 5 are Annette Webber and Sam Tolley. The entire board was sworn in on Nov. 11 as new officers for the year were also elected in the special meeting. Jen Hill is president of the board, Leslie Nielsen is vice president and Annette Webber is secretary/treasurer.

■ Morgan Neilson, an animal science major from Meeker, was selected as an Oklahoma State University Senior of Significance for the 2013-2014 academic year.

■ With the pending retirement of current Rio Blanco County Sheriff Si Woodruff, Anthony Mazzola announced Monday his intention to run for county sheriff in 2014.

■ The White River Electric Association Board of Directors approved the 2014 Rate Schedule at its regularly scheduled November board meeting, and it was decided that there will not be an increase in residential power rates for the year.

■ The newly reconstructed runway, taxiways and a new large-aircraft apron at Meeker Airport were dedicated Saturday morning to Gary Coulter, the man who has managed the airport since 1959, a total of 54

years.

The new airport opened on Nov. 27. Coulter piloted the first aircraft onto the new runway accompanied by his wife, Relda, his daughter, Samantha, and his son, Lanny.

■ A 60-year-old Rangely man was killed in a single vehicle accident on Dec. 4, when the farm tractor he was using to plow his neighbor's driveway slid, rolled over and pinned the man underneath.

■ Santa and Mrs. Claus made their first stop of the season at Meeker on Friday night for Meeker's Parade of Lights. The Jolly Old Soul and his wife just may be in Rangely this weekend, taking part in Christmastfest.

■ Bonnie Ruckman, the director of the Rio Blanco County Department of Human Services, spent plenty of time cutting her retirement cake on Monday afternoon at Meeker Town Hall. Ruckman was a caseworker for the department for 13 years and she spent 24 years as department director.

■ Tessa Slagle, a senior at Rangely High School, is one of two Colorado high school students chosen for the 52nd Annual U.S. Senate Youth Program set for March 8-15 in Washington, D.C. She is currently student body president at RHS and aspires to enter politics.

■ Rio Blanco County Undersheriff Michael Joos has thrown his hat into the race for Rio Blanco County Sheriff after a 39 year career in law enforcement which began as a police cadet with the Federal Heights (Colo.) Police Department in 1975.

■ The Western Rio Blanco Metropolitan (WRBM) Recreation District's chili dinner and dance recital drew more than 100 people to Colorado Northwestern Community College on Saturday night, netting more than \$500 to help a local family pay for their daughter's health care expenses.

■ On Dec. 10, during the annual Meeker Lions Club meeting at the Freeman E. Fairfield Center, Tom Allen presented the Lion of the Year Award to member Mark Rogers. The Fairfield Center had a full house of Lions, who gave Rogers a standing ovation for the coveted honor. Allen said the award was given to Rogers for his selfless dedication and participation at club events and meetings.

**MEEKER**  
School Lunch Menu

**WEEK OF JAN. 20-24, 2014**

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Jan. 20 - NO SCHOOL! Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Jan. 21 - Chicken Patty, Green Beans, Fruit Cocktail</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Jan. 22 - Beef Mac &amp; Cheese, Roll, Salad, Apple Slices</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Jan. 23 - Filet O' Fish, Baked Chips, Vegetable Normandy, Pears</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Jan. 24 - Turkey Ala King, Rice, Veggie Egg Roll, Orange Halves, Sweet 'n Sour Sauce</b>

**R RANGELY**  
School Lunch Menu

**WEEK OF JAN. 20-23, 2014**

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Jan. 20 - Biscuits &amp; Gravy, Potato Triangle, Fruit &amp; Salad Bar, Milk or Water</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Jan. 21 - Frito Pie, Fruit &amp; Salad Bar, Milk or Water</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Jan. 22 - Chicken Fajita, Salsa, Fruit &amp; Salad Bar, Milk or Water</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Jan. 23 - BBQ Beef Sandwich, French Fries, Fruit &amp; Salad Bar, Milk or Water</b>

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OBITUARY

William Richard 'Dick' Green

Feb. 14, 1925 ~ Jan. 7, 2014

William Richard "Dick" Green, 88, of Delta, Colo., passed away Jan. 7, 2014, at San Juan Living Center in Montrose, Colo.

Dick was born Feb. 14, 1925, to Deyoe and Frances (Pearson) Green in Rifle, Colo. He served his country in the United States Marine Corps and was a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, serving from 1944 to 1946, and he re-enlisted in 1951 and was honorably discharged in 1952 as a corporal.

Dick wanted to make the military his career, but then thought of

how much he enjoyed riding his horse and ranching. As for things he enjoyed, it was riding around on his horse, the outdoors and seeing new country, which he did for many years following.

Dick is survived by: his wife, Carol Green; an older sister, Elizabeth Terrell; a younger sister, Lillian Hill; sister-in-law Lora Green; one son, Bill (Julie) Green; grandchildren Yvonne (Eric) Moore, Jacklynn, Michael, Daniel, Crystal; one daughter, Tome Green; and numerous nieces and nephews.

We will celebrate his life as he

did ... casually, in the spring, when the grass is green! A celebration of Dick's life will be announced at a later date. His place of rest has taken place at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado in Grand Junction.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the V.A. Community Outpatient Clinic in memory of Dick Green, 4 Hillcrest Plaza Way, Montrose, Colo., 81401.

Arrangements are under the care of Crippin Funeral Home & Crematory in Montrose.

DAYS: George Lees announce wedding

Continued from Page 5A

resting up from his finals. He returned Jan. 7.

Joe and Evalyn Carstens enjoyed having their friends, Pat and Bob Jordan of Granger, Idaho, here Tuesday of last week through Monday. On Saturday, Evalyn celebrated her birthday with her daughter, Suzanne, preparing the birthday dinner. Joining them was the Carstens daughter, Sherri, and family.

Rangely Times — 50 years ago

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Spetter and their son, Budge, and Edna Hurla went to Los Angeles during the holidays to spend a week with the Spetter's girls and their families, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mathews and Mr. and Mrs. Bud Mahan.

PFC. Anthony L. Weiss, sta-

tioned at Ft. Benning, Geo., is scheduled to be home the last days of January for a 15-day leave day before going overseas to Bangkok, Thailand.

Lila Nickell, mother of Mrs. Ethel Taylor, and Mrs. Taylor's sister, Mrs. Loren Alexander from Roosevelt, Utah, were guests on Sunday.

Rangely Times — 40 years ago

Mr. and Mrs. George Lee have announced the wedding of their daughter, Shawna Lee. She was united in marriage to Calvin McCabe on Dec. 28 at the Catholic church in Cortez, Utah.

Wanda and Carl Ray Collett and son from Dutch John have been visiting with her parents, the Robert Wardells. They returned home on Monday.

Captain Clark L. Mobley of the

U.S. Air Force visited with his parents, the David Mobeys, last week. He is stationed in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Polley and son visited with the Bazzel Tipps family Sunday afternoon.

Rangely Times — 30 years ago

Dave and Judy Raley would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Trista Lee, who is Rio Blanco County's first New Year's baby. Trista was born Jan. 3, 1984, at 9:40 p.m.

The Rangely High School Panthers came through with one of their better efforts of the season when they defeated Plateau Valley, 68-63. Coach Hanson felt that everyone who got into the game hustled and contributed to the win. Tony Unzicker scored 21 points and pulled down nine rebounds.

TRAILS: Potential for reliable income

Continued from Page 1A

when we get (a system established), there may be some adjustments that we need to make and I encourage people to be flexible and adaptable when those things come along."

The county has also hired Colorado State University recreation economist John Loomis to determine the current and potential impact of off-highway vehicle (OHV) and other recreation uses on jobs, income and spending within the county, Rio Blanco County Economic Development Director Katelin Cook said.

GOC Executive Director Drew Stoll said that while the master trails plan will connect to and extend from the Wagon Wheel Trail System, which was primarily designed for OHV use, a trails model that incorporates a range of motorized and non-motorized options makes sense for Rio Blanco County.

"It's a challenging thing but definitely doable," Stoll said. "It's not for everyone. If you want to go out and ride a mountain bike and not hear a motorcycle, that's not for you... (however,) we decided not to call this an OHV trails master plan because it doesn't just have to be that. I think the focus is to try to find as many opportunities for multi-purpose trails as possible."

The types of users attracted to Rio Blanco County and what they take from their experience here, he said, depends largely on how the county views its assets and markets them. Allowing people to feel like they're a part of something larger than themselves as they travel new landscapes and experience key destination points is a central purpose of a trail system,

he added.

Stoll also said that helping visitors learn about and appreciate various uses for the land is another component of the project.

"How are the landscapes used, how have they been used traditionally?" He said. "People from the Front Range who don't know much about ranching or even about sheep ranching or who don't know about oil and gas, they're fascinated by seeing that. Believe it or not, it really is interesting to folks to learn about these things."

Stoll said that GOC would analyze natural and created constraints which, in Rio Blanco County, include steep topography, state highways, protected environmental areas and private lands. The consultants will also factor in considerations like variations in trail difficulty and size along with each trail's intended use and potential restrictions.

GOC consultant Jim Keeler discussed the successes and challenges other established trails - among them West Virginia's Hatfield-McCoy trails and south-central Utah's Paiute system - have experienced since they were implemented. Projects with easy-to-use graphics and communication, sustainable funding sources, and links between destinations and communities have flourished, he said.

Following the presentation, Stoll opened the floor to attendees, who brainstormed potential trail users, destination points, amenities and advanced- or specialized-use options for routes.

One resident requested that Rangely's rock crawling park remain exclusive to specialized four-wheel-drive vehicles. Others pointed out that trail maintenance could require extensive trash cleanup and volunteer help,

while another attendee said she wanted safe, established trails for non-motorized activities like cross-country skiing and hiking in addition to or alongside OHV-friendly routes.

Sheep rancher Sam Robinson said that the planners' desire not to affect landowners' and land-users' livelihoods needs concrete, intentional planning behind it, like educating trail system users about prior use of the land and enforcing reasonable limitations to protect it.

"In one sense, this land is tough, but if you hit it from the wrong direction, it just shatters and you can't put Humpty Dumpty back together again," Robinson said. "So along with education, you need to come up with a few ideas about seasons of use depending on the type of use you're planning on doing."

Commissioner Eskelson said a primary aim of the master trails plan is to move toward providing a reliable source of income for the county as boom and bust cycles affect industry.

"Really what we're thinking, the long-term goal, is trying to fill some of those valleys for the cyclical industry," he said.

At the meeting's end, Stoll handed out county maps and asked participants to identify trails they have used and find connections between them. Alternatively, he said, people could pick out destinations trail users might enjoy and link them using existing or future trails.

GOC will then incorporate the information into one of two plan options to be presented in March, followed by an April meeting to present one revised plan.

The plan calls for GOC to hone and finalize the document into the master trails plan by May.



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HERITAGE BUILDING & LUMBER, \$940.81, Supplies  
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KANSAS CITY LIFE, \$1,821.72, Life & STD Insurance  
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L.A.W.S., \$5,737.88, Expenses  
LEAVENWORTH CONSULTING, LLC, \$540.00, Services  
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PIERING, LISA, \$530.00, Benefit Reimbursement  
PINNACOL ASSURANCE, \$567.80, Expenses  
PINYON TREE LIQUORS, \$255.00, Shop 'N Dine  
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POSTMASTER, \$200.00, Expenses  
PRATER'S PLUMBING & HEATING, \$2,948.78, Services  
PRESTIGE FINANCIAL SERVICES INC, \$300.00, Payroll deduction  
PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER INC, \$672.80, Expenses

LEGAL NOTICES

QUILL, \$731.89, Supplies  
RAC TRANSPORT, \$256.51, Services  
RAIN FOR RENT, \$8,089.48, Expenses  
RANGELY AUTO PARTS, \$4,586.00, Supplies  
RANGELY CONOCO, \$80.00, Shop 'N Dine  
RANGELY HARDWARE, \$7,238.53, Supplies  
RANGELY LIQUOR STORE LLC, \$535.00, Shop 'N Dine  
RANGELY SCHOOL FOUNDATION, \$20,244.44, Sales Tax Funding  
RANGELY TRASH SERVICE, \$1,366.85, Services  
RANGELY, TOWN OF, \$7,110.59, Utilities  
RAVEN REALTY, \$79.86, Utility Clearing  
RESPOND FIRST AID SYSTEMS, \$59.30, Expenses  
RIO BLANCO COUNTY, \$105.85, Fuel  
RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES, \$250.98, Expenses  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HEALTH PLANS, \$23,942.85, Health Ins  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEED MANAGEMENT, \$1,595.00, Expenses  
ROMNEY, SHERMAN, \$1,868.00, Services  
SAM'S CLUB/GEORGE, \$14.97, Expenses  
SCHMEUSER GORDON MEYER, INC, \$30,663.69, Services  
SENERGY BUILDERS, \$5,144.50, Housing Rental Fee  
SIEMENS WATER TECHNOLOGIES, \$425.22, Expenses  
SIMS, TERESA, \$150.00, Judge Fee

NOTICE  
REAL PROPERTY PURCHASE AT TAX LIEN SALE AND APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

TO: Every person in actual possession or occupancy of the hereinafter described real property, lot or premises, and to the person in whose name the same was taxed or specially assessed, and to all persons having an interest or title of record in or to the said premises and to whom it may concern, and more especially to:

TRANS-VAIL INC  
BERISLAV K SEPIC & DJURDJICA A SEPIC  
DESERT SUNSHINE LLC  
SNELL & WILMER LLP ON BEHALF OF PACIFIC WESTERN BANK  
MOUNTAIN VALLEY BANK  
PITKIN EXCHANGE HOLDINGS OF ASPEN LLC  
DUANE R STEWART  
RIO BLANCO COUNTY TREASURER

You and each of you are notified that on November 17, 2010, the then County Treasurer of Rio Blanco County, Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to TRANS-VAIL INC, the following described real property situate in the county of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado, to-wit:

SANDERSON HILLS SUBDIVISION  
LOT: 3

And a Certificate of Purchase was issued therefore to TRANS-VAIL INC, by the said County Treasurer;

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent taxes assessed against the real property for the year 2009;

That said real property was taxed or specially assessed in the name of SEPIC, BERISLAV K. & DJURDJICA A., for said year 2008;

That on November 18, 2013, said TRANS-VAIL INC, the present holder of the certificate of purchase, has made request to the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said real property;

That at 10:00 A.M. on May 6, 2014, a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for the said real property to the said TRANS-VAIL INC, unless the same has been redeemed.

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Tax Lien Sale Date: November 17, 2010  
Treasurer's Deed can be issued after November 17, 2013; Date Deed scheduled to issue May 6, 2014

Redemption Period expires May 6, 2014, PRIOR to 10:00 A.M  
Schedule R0103807

TLSC 20100076 Assessed Value \$39,840.00  
Assessed Name SEPIC, BERISLAV K. & DJURDJICA A.

Published: January 16, January 23, January 30, 2014  
Published in The Rio Blanco Herald Times

Witness my hand this 9th day of January, A.D. 2014

/s/ Karen Arnold, Rio Blanco County Treasurer

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF RANGELY  
Check Register  
December-13  
VENDOR, AMOUNT, DESCRIPTION  
ACCUTEST MOUNTAIN STATE, \$296.00, Chemicals  
AFLAC, \$379.16, Payroll deduction  
AGNC, \$2,500.00, Dues  
AHRENS, BRENDA, \$1,330.00, Benefit Reimbursement

LEGAL NOTICES

AIR LIQUIDE, \$21.00, Cylinder Rental  
AIRGAS INTERMOUNTAIN, \$332.07, Expenses  
ANIMAL HEALTH & SANITARY SUPPLY, \$151.07, Expenses  
ASHLEY VALLEY ANIMAL HOSPITAL, \$1,564.08, Animal Shelter Expenses  
ASPEN MAINTENANCE SUPPLY, INC., \$36.53, Expenses  
BACK TO HEALTH CHIROPRACTIC, \$75.00, Services

LEGAL NOTICES

BALBOA CAPITAL CORP., \$306.00, Expenses  
BISCO, \$42.89, Expenses  
BRIXIUS, PETER, \$20.00, Benefit Reimbursement  
BROWN, DENISE, \$50.00, Animal Surcharge  
BUD'S SIGNS, \$1,550.00, Expenses  
CALIFORNIA CONTRACTORS SUPPLY, \$197.63, Expenses  
CARROT-TOP INDUSTRIES, INC., \$53.89, Expenses  
CASELLE, INC., \$799.33, Services



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

MEEKER CAT Coalition accepting cat food or monetary donations for spay/neuter and health care. Donations may be left at The Vet Clinic in Meeker or call 878-3560 or 878-4429 for more information.

RANGELY ROCKCRAWLING & 4 Wheel Drive group in Rangely meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Rio Blanco Water Users Building on Hwy. 64 at 7 p.m.

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

**Rangely Victim Services**  
An open door for the protection and care of abused and battered persons. **Non-emergency call 629-5729 or 629-0709. Emergencies call 911.** Providing assistance for victims of violent crimes.

MOMS GROUP meeting, open to anyone with a child 0-5 years, Grace Baptist Church, Rangely, first Thursday of every month, 8:45 a.m. to 11 a.m. Info. call Heather Zadra (970)629-9937

BRESNAN CABLE television customers - If you are not receiving a television channel station you normally get, 3 people must report it before it's considered an outage. Call the service number on your bill to report.

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

VFW POST 5843 and Ladies Auxiliary monthly meetings are now held at Kilowatt Korner in Meeker: VFW Post 5843 - 6:30 p.m. 2nd Monday. Ladies Auxiliary - 5:00 p.m., 2nd Monday.

FOOD BANK of the Rockies mobile pantry truck will be in Rio Blanco County providing Food assistance to community member. Scheduled Dates for 2014: January 23, February 27 and March 27. They Food Bank will be at the Meeker Fairgrounds from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**MEEKER STREAKER MONTHLY SCHEDULE JANUARY 2014**  
NOTE: Please call 878-9368 in advance to set up all medical appointment rides. Activities are subject to change. Bus available on dates noted below.  
Jan 16, Bus in town, Grand Jct. Medical  
Jan 17, Bus in town  
Jan 18, No Bus  
Jan 19, AM Bus  
Jan 20, Bus in town  
Jan 21, Bus in town  
Jan 22, Bus in town  
Jan 23, Bus in town, Craig  
Jan 24, Bus in town  
Jan 25, No Bus  
Jan 26, AM Bus  
Jan 27, Bus in town  
Jan 28, Bus in town  
Jan 29, Bus in town  
Jan 30, Bus in town  
Jan 31, Bus in town  
Call Streaker for a ride 878-9368. Reservations for Rec. Center Trips should be made at 878-3403. Chuckwagon 878-5627.

THE GIRL Scout Troop #3634 will have a lock in for Middle School students January 17th-at the new 4-H Building starting at 6 p.m. \$20 per person. Call Dawn at (320) 223-4351 for questions & info.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PISTOL RIVER LEATHER**  
Participating in a gun buy-back program because you think criminals have too many guns is like castrating yourself because you think the neighbors have too many kids.  
785 Park Avenue • 878-4346  
[www.pistolriverleather.com](http://www.pistolriverleather.com)

**RADINO & CHUCKWAGON**  
Please call before 9:00 a.m. day of meal  
**878-5627 or 675-8112**  
Senior Citizen Nutrition Program  
Meals served at noon.  
Reservations appreciated.  
Suggested Donation Over 60 - \$2.50. Under 60 - Guest Fee \$7.  
(Did you know? Homebound trays can be ordered for over 60, suggested donation \$2.50 - 12:10 p.m. pickup.)  
\*\*MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*  
FRIDAY, January 17: Beef barley soup, wheat crackers, CA blend vegetables, and pineapple gelatin mold.  
MONDAY, January 20: COOK'S COICE  
TUESDAY, January 21: Lemon baked fish, rice pilaf, green beans/mushrooms, and fruit mix.  
WEDNESDAY, January 22: Swedish meatballs, garlic potatoes, peas & carrots, and oranges.  
FRIDAY, January 24: Chicken marsala, rice, mandarin oranges, parslid carrots, and cloverleaf rolls.

NEW EDEN Pregnancy Care Services - pregnancy tests, emergency supplies, guidance by trained volunteers, classes on pregnancy and child care, post-abortion support, referrals. Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 345 Main Street, Meeker. Email: [newedenpc@gmail.com](mailto:newedenpc@gmail.com) or (970)878-5117. All services are confidential.

**CLEANING**

**NEW LIFE CARPET CARE**  
Carpet cleaning, air duct cleaning and cleaning services provided by certified carpet technicians. A great job at a great price. (970)824-1017.

**COMPUTER SERVICES**

NEED HELP setting up your new holiday electronics? For help with computers, laptops, wifi, TV's and more call (970)-878-3777 or (720)-280-4913.

**FOR SALE**

FOR SALE: Oak Table & Chairs. Very Good Condition. \$200 OBO. Call (970) 675-5235.

FOR SALE: Newer Whirlpool washer & dryer. \$200 OBO. Very good condition. Call (970) 675-5235.

FOR SALE - Older Jacobsen Snowblower, 24" auger, 8 horsepower, 2-stage, chains on tires, no plastic. 878-3640.

**GUNS**

**KELLEY'S GUNSMITHING**  
Would like to buy quality guns and optics  
878-4582

**HUNTING**

**PETSKA FUR**  
Paying top prices for Fur, Antler, Deer & Elk Hides.  
In Rangely and Dinosaur  
December - March.  
(308) 870-4887. [www.petskafur.net](http://www.petskafur.net)

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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

**HELP WANTED: GENERAL**

Lifeguards: The ERBM Recreation & Park District is seeking applications for part time lifeguards. Lifeguards are trained professional rescuers who ensure the safety of patrons by preventing and responding to emergencies in and out of the aquatic facility. Applicants must be 15 years of age or older; know how to swim; be available for daytime shifts, early morning, evening, split and/or weekend shifts; and be available a minimum of 12 hours per week. As part of the interview process, candidates will be asked to swim 300 yards using crawl stroke and breast stroke, perform a brick dive in the deep end of the pool and tread water for 2 minutes. Candidates do not need to hold a lifeguard certification card as we will train selected candidates on site. Life-guards are also responsible for performing maintenance and inspection of the facility on a daily basis; reporting any unsafe conditions or equipment to the supervisor(s); monitoring pool water chemistry and filling out required records and reports.  
Salary range \$9-\$11/hr. A completed ERBM Recreation & Park District job application is required for consideration and should be returned to ERBM Recreation & Park District, Attn: Human Resources, 101 Ute Rd., Meeker, CO 81641. Applications are available at the Meeker Recreation Center and on the website, [www.MeekerRecDistrict.com](http://www.MeekerRecDistrict.com). Complete job description is available upon request and online. ERBM Recreation & Park District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 970-878-3403. Applications will be accepted through January 23, 2014.

The Rangely Area Chamber of Commerce is looking for a full time director. All applicants must have strong communication skills for writing, marketing, social networking, and strong computer skills including QuickBooks, EXCEL, and word programs. Applicants must have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in business, public administration, communication, or related program. A valid Colorado driver's license, clean MVR, and reliable transportation required. Occasional travel, after hours, and weekend events require attendance. Must be 21 YOA. Salary is \$34K to \$44K DOQ. Submit resume, cover letter, and three professional references to: [angela.miller@state.co.us](mailto:angela.miller@state.co.us), fax: 970-675-2271, or mail: 209 E. Main St., Rangely, CO 81648

**HELP WANTED: GENERAL**

THE MEEKER Chamber of Commerce is looking for a full-time administrative assistant. For information or application, call (970) 878-5510, email [director@meekerchamber.com](mailto:director@meekerchamber.com), or visit 710 Market Street. Position open until filled. EOE.

GIANT STEP in Rangely has an upcoming opening for an Early Childhood teacher. You must have required state qualifications. Inquire at 246 East Main.

Join a team that creates state of the art solutions for upstream oil & gas well site automation. Flow Data's product development team has created a game-changing patent-pending product that is taking the industry by storm.  
An exciting opportunity with an established company awaits. We are currently looking to fill the following positions:  
-Electricians  
-Application Engineers  
-Automation Technicians  
-Panel Shop Supervisor  
-Panel Shop Technicians  
We offer an innovative and exciting environment, competitive wages, and benefits including medical, dental, life, 401(k)-with a generous company match and much more!  
For more information on these positions please visit [flow-data.com/careers](http://flow-data.com/careers). Apply online at [flow-data.com/careers](http://flow-data.com/careers), email [sarah.e@corporategroupinc.com](mailto:sarah.e@corporategroupinc.com) or fax your resume to (414) 355-6764.

HOUSEKEEPING: The ERBM Recreation & Park District is seeking two Housekeeping Representatives. This is a full time benefited position; hiring range \$11.80 to \$14.40/hour. Duties include, but are not limited to: general cleaning and light maintenance duties of district facilities as assigned by the Park and Facilities Manager. Requirements include, but are not limited to: applicant must be 18 years of age or older, possess a high school diploma or GED, read, write, speak and understand English, be available to work various shifts, primarily evenings and weekends. A completed ERBM Recreation & Park District job application is required for consideration and should be returned to ERBM Recreation & Park District, Attn: Human Resources, 101 Ute Rd, Meeker, CO 81641. 970-878-3403. Applications are available at the Meeker Recreation Center. Complete job description is available upon request. Applications will be accepted through Monday, January 22. ERBM Recreation & Park District is an equal opportunity employer.

**HELP WANTED: GENERAL**

THE RIO Blanco Herald Times is looking for a part-time freelance reporter with newspaper experience to cover Rangely's school board and town board meetings as well as occasional county commissioners' meetings. If interested, call Editor-Sean McMahon at 878-4017 or 675-5033, or contact him at [sean@theherald-times.com](mailto:sean@theherald-times.com)

SPORTS OFFICIALS The ERBM Recreation & Park District is seeking Sports Officials with immediate openings for Youth Basketball. The season runs from January through March. There are ongoing openings for Youth Baseball, Youth Softball, Adult Softball, Youth Flag Football, and Youth Soccer. Part time without benefits; hiring range is \$11.81-\$14.43/hr. Requirements include, but are not limited to: knowledge of sport and rules, ability to multitask and communicate effectively with adults and children. Applicants must be 15 years of age or older. All interested individuals are encouraged to apply. A completed ERBM Recreation & Park District job application is required for consideration and should be returned to ERBM Recreation & Park District, Attn: Human Resources, 101 Ute Rd, Meeker, CO 81641. Applications are available at the Meeker Recreation Center and on the website, [www.MeekerRecDistrict.com](http://www.MeekerRecDistrict.com). Complete job description is available upon request and online. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. The ERBM Recreation & Park District is an equal opportunity employer.

**PIONEERS MEDICAL CENTER,**  
a community oriented medical center with high patient standards, is hiring for the following positions:

- PRN:**
- Certified Nursing Assistant - Walbridge Wing
  - Patient Care Tech
  - RN - Acute/E.D.
  - RN - Walbridge Wing
  - LPN - Walbridge Wing
- FULL-TIME (eligible for benefits):**
- Physical Therapist
  - RN - Acute / E.D.
  - Food Service Tech/Cook
  - Certified Nursing Assistant

Submit Resume and/or Application to:  
Pioneers Medical Center, HR  
345 Cleveland St., Meeker, Colo., 81641  
Visit our Web site at:  
[www.pioneershospital.org](http://www.pioneershospital.org)

**Pioneers Medical Center**  
Phone: (970) 878-3403 Fax: (970) 878-3405  
345 Cleveland, Meeker, CO 81641  
Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District

**HELP WANTED: PART TIME**

HORIZONS NEEDS a part-time Children's Service Coordinator to work closely with families and professionals. Bachelor's degree required. Application and program info at [Horizonsnwc.org](http://Horizonsnwc.org). Call Kathy (970) 871-8558 if questions. EOE.

**CARS DOMESTIC**

2002 PONTIAC Grand Am, V6, 200,000+ miles. Asking \$2,500, OBO. Call for details. (970) 854-5294.

FOR SALE: 1998 Jeep Cherokee, very good condition. \$4,000. Call (970) 620-1904.

**MOTORCADE: MISCELLANEOUS**

TRAILERS, HITCHES, flatbeds, toolboxes, trailer service and truck accessories. We are a "one stop shop" truck and trailer outfitter. B&W gooseneck hitches \$597 installed. Pine Country Trailer Sales, Grand Junction. 1-800-287-6532.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Meeker
- Registered Nurse
  - Fairgrounds Lead Worker

- Rangely
- Caseworker
  - Relief Cook

For details and a Rio Blanco County application, please go to [www.co.rio-blanco.co.us/departments/personnel.html](http://www.co.rio-blanco.co.us/departments/personnel.html)  
Rio Blanco County HR at 200 Main St., Meeker, CO 970-878-9570 ADA/EOE

**SYNC2 media**  
Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network  
To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 74 Colorado newspapers for only \$250, contact your local newspaper or call SYNC2 Media at 303-571-5117.

**HELP WANTED - SALES**

EARN \$500 A-DAY: Insurance Agents Needed; Leads, No Cold Calls; Commissions Paid Daily; Lifetime Renewals; Complete Training; Health/Dental Insurance; Life License Required. Call 1-888-713-6020

**HELP WANTED**

25 DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED! Learn to drive for Swift Transportation at US Truck. Earn \$750 per week! CDL & Job Ready in 3 weeks! 1-800-809-2141

**SYNC2 MEDIA**  
Buy a statewide classified line ad in newspapers across Colorado for just \$250 per week. Maximize results with our Frequency Deals! Contact this newspaper or call SYNC2 Media at 303-571-5117

**STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES**  
HOME OFFICES: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS  
**KEVIN AMACK INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**  
KEVIN AMACK Agent  
628 Main P.O. Box 347 Meeker, CO 81641 (970) 878-4036  
402 W. Main St., Suite 139 Rangely, CO 81648 (970) 675-5455 (800) 440-3418

Complete Automotive Repairs  
Computer Diagnostics  
CNC Machining  
Fabricating • Welding  
**FAMILY AUTOMOTIVE**  
262 6th & Market Streets  
Meeker, CO 81641  
970.878.5606  
Phil Mass Mike Mohr

**MEEKER collision CENTER**  
BODY & FRAME  
43904 highway 13 (located behind Samuelsen Hardware)  
970-878-0000  
Auto Glass Auto Body  
Chip Repair Spray-In Bedliners

**Farm Bureau Insurance**  
James A. Amick Agent  
James.Amick@cfbmic.com  
733 Main St. • PO Box 659 • Meeker  
Office: 970-878-3664 Fax: 970-878-3415 Cell: 970-942-8524

**Schindler Plumbing**  
Residential | Commercial | Remodel | Service Calls  
Boiler Systems/Hot Water Heat  
Specializing in Custom Homes  
Randy Schindler Master Plumber  
Cell (970) 274-8050  
Office (970) 878-5153

**Casey Tech Services, LLC**  
• Computer Diagnostics & Repair  
• Virus & Spyware Clean-up & Removal  
• Audio/Visual Cabling & Consulting  
• Residential & Business Networking Solutions  
For ALL your local computer support needs!  
MARTY CASEY  
970.878.4650  
[support@caseytechservices.com](mailto:support@caseytechservices.com)

**LDNK High Country PORTABLES**  
Port-A-John • Septic • Rolloff Services  
Locally Owned & Operated  
Your "Business" is Our Business  
Levi & Darcy Roach  
970-878-6361

**RANGELY Stewart Welding**  
98 County Road 46  
• Trailer Axles & Accessories •  
24 - Hour Service  
on Welding and Machine Work  
Certified Oilfield Welders  
Ed Stewart: 675-2063  
SHOP PHONE: 675-8720

**HOLHEART Bodyworks**  
THERAPEUTIC & MEDICAL MASSAGE  
Deep Tissue • Aromatherapy • Reflexology • Healing Touch • Cranial Sacral  
• Myofascial Release • Oncology • Swedish  
GINA M. SPENCER, RMT  
592 Main Street, Suite 20 Meeker, Colorado 81641  
Now Taking Appointments  
"Massage With Heart"

**ELECTRICAL WORK OF ALL KINDS**  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL  
**DUCEY'S ELECTRIC**  
739 East Main Street, Rangely • 563 Market Street, Meeker  
675-8368 • Alan Ducey • 878-4144  
24-HOUR SERVICE

Call 675-5033 or 878-4017 to place your ad in the Business Directory TODAY!

**Do You Have Questions About the New Health Insurance Marketplace?**

We're here to help you. Individuals, families and small businesses who are interested in learning about their options for insurance through the new health insurance marketplace, Connect for Health Colorado, please contact us today!

**CONNECT for HEALTH COLORADO**  
CERTIFIED by COLORADO  
In Rio Blanco County call 970-987-2679

**HOMES: MEEKER**

1970 MOBILE home with 3BDR, 1BA located at 908 Market Street. #15. Call (970) 317-7889. Selling trailer only.

FSBO: 1452 Mountain View Rd., Sage Hills. 3,600 sq. ft. 4BDR, 3BA, great room, lower level entertainment room, shop/bonus room. 3 car garage. \$370,000. (970) 243-7083.

1350 SAGE Ridge Road 4BDR 3BA home on double lot in Sage Hills. Large deck with beautiful, unobstructed views. Many extras. \$240,000. See photos at Western-slopefsbo.com. Call (970)878-3228.

**MIND SPRINGS health**

- Mental Wellness
- Behavioral Change
- Substance Abuse

Treatment funding available for pregnant women, IV drug users and women with dependent children.

267 6th Street, Meeker  
970.878.5112  
17497 West Highway 64, Rangely  
970.875.8411  
www.MindSpringsHealth.org

**HOMES: RANGELY**

RENTAL PROPERTY for sale in Rangely. Two Duplexes, garage, carport with storage attached, and 2 storage sheds used for tenants. Rented 95% of the time. Generates approximately \$2600.00 per month. \$230,000.00 Serious Inquiries only. (970)261-1194

**LAND/LOTS**

FSBO HORSE property, 22 acres, new 5 wire barbless fence, 200 amp service, cistern, heated utility bldg, horse barn, corrals, shed, RV service, house ready. \$89,500. Possible lease purchase. 4751 County Road 7. (580) 571-5967

**RENTALS: MEEKER**

FULLY FURNISHED 1BDR, 1BA apartment. All utilities included. \$500/month. Security deposit and references required. Please call (970) 220-2150.

2BDR, 1BA remodeled manufactured home. All new appliances and flooring. \$625/month, water, sewer and trash included. Deposit and references required. Call (970) 220-2150.

**RENTALS: MEEKER**

TOWNHOUSE FOR rent. NP, NS. 2 BDR, 1.5BA, newly painted, all new kitchen appliances. One block from Post Office. Renter pays heat and electricity and cleans snow off sidewalk to street. Owner pays garbage, water, sewer and lawn care. Space in carport for cars. Professionally cleaned carpets. \$550/month, plus deposit in monthly payments. Call Norma Oldland 878-4816 or Chris Uphoff 878-5130.

3 BDR, 1.5 BA, nicely furnished townhouse. Washer & dryer included, NS, water, trash & sewer included. \$775/mo. plus security deposit. 878-5858.

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY  
1 BDR furnished apartment utilities included, quiet setting, no smoking, no pets. 878-4141 or 878-4198 leave message.

**NOBODY COVERS RIO BLANCO COUNTY LIKE THE HERALD TIMES**

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

**RENTALS: MEEKER**

3BDR, 2BA, fenced yard, private location. References and security deposit required. \$850/month. Call (970) 878-5828.

FOR RENT: Newly renovated- 4BDR, 1BA house. All appliances included. Water and sewer paid. NS, NP. \$850.00 a month. Call (970) 878-3257.

3BDR 1BA home, fenced yard, decent storage room, large kitchen, new furnace. \$625 per month, references and security deposit required. Call (970) 220-2150.

Clean 2BD/2BA Apartments. Furnished/Unfurnished-in unit WD, utilities included. Year lease \$650, \$1,500 damage deposit. Shorter term options available. Western Exposures Realty (970) 878-5877.

**RENTALS: MEEKER**

EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN, SPACIOUS, 2 BDR apt. Hot water heat, water, sewer, trash paid. Lease/Deposit required. NS, NP. (970)878-4592.

**12TH STREET APARTMENTS**

2 BDR, 1 BA, heat, hot water, cable included. Call (970)261-1441 or (970)878-3739.

STORAGE DEPOT 10x25 unit. 878-4808.

HALANDRAS BUILDING, 300 sq. ft. interior office, includes utilities. Off street parking, easy access. (970)629-9714.

**Rocky Mountain Storage & Rentals**

5x10, 10x10 storage units available in town. 878-0085 or 878-3700.

THE FORMER BLM Building west of Meeker is for rent. The building consists of approximately 10,000 square feet of office space. Interested parties may contact the Meeker Re-1 School District Superintendent at 878-9040 for more information.

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

**RENTALS: RANGELY**

FOR RENT: 2BDR, 1BA units \$650.00 plus utilities. Call Rodney (970) 462-6538 or Dan (970) 462-6858 available immediately.

FOR RENT: 3BDR, 2BA home with fenced yard, near park. \$1,100/month + security deposit. Call (970) 942-3171 or 878-4282 for more info.

RV SPACES in Rangely available. Rent \$350/month, utilities included. Now also leasing mobile home spaces! Contact Christy (970)589-9249.

**SILVER SAGE RV PARK**

(970)675-2259  
RV Spaces for rent.  
Manager: Heath Gebauer  
(970)675-2259  
(970)846-4293  
Fax: (970)675-5509

**RENTALS: DINOSAUR**

FOR RENT: 3BDR, 1.5BA house with garage. No Pets. Call (970) 374-2209.

**REAL ESTATE CORNER**

**Meeker Realty LLC** (970) 878-5165  
www.meekerrealty.com  
Cindy Welle, Broker - Owner  
Wendy Garrett, Broker Assoc.  
Abby Welle, Broker Assoc.

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

**Featured Property of the Week**

NEW LISTING: 1036 Lance Circle - large custom built home, 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, large corner lot in quiet Cul de Sac. List Price: \$295,000.

- ◆ NEW! 642 12th Street Cute and Clean Bi-level, VERY motivated seller ..\$165,000
- ◆ 1394 Ridge Road, move in ready, 3 bdrm, 2ba ..... **PRICE REDUCED!** \$265,000
- ◆ 1343 Sage Ridge Rd - New 3bdrm home, full basement ..... \$219,000
- ◆ 1246 Cleveland Street - Tri-level home, clean, move in ready ..... \$160,000
- ◆ 517 Park Avenue - COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, PRIME location ..... \$170,000
- ◆ 1217 Main Street - Great starter home, 15000 SF corner lot ..... \$149,500
- ◆ 242 Park Ave. - large site, 2+ bdrm home, large shop ..... \$145,000
- ◆ Garfield St. Townhouses - 5 units ..... **SALE PENDING!** \$29,900-\$49,900
- ◆ Vacant Lot - 1280 Garfield, includes water tap. Make Offer ..... \$25,000

**IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BUY YOUR Dream Home!**

**Backcountry Realty**  
1130 Market St. • PO Box 2107  
Meeker, CO 81641  
970-878-4715 • Fax 878-4780  
Cell 970-390-2182  
backcountry@nctelecom.net  
athiesse123@gmail.com

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**HOMES IN MEEKER ...**

- \*NEW 1425 Mountain View Rd.-4 BR, 3 BA home on a private lot with amazing views. Well maintained. \$189,900.
- \*NEW 146 Garfield- Unique commercial property or? Loading dock, workshop, small apartment, storage. \$100,000
- \*NEW 560 5th St- Great Rental Property -Lg family home or can be a 2, 3, or 4 plex, big shop. \$175,000.
- \*NEW 910 Water St, Space 6- Very nice doublewide in trailer park, 3 BR, 2 BA, new carpet, appliances. \$59,000
- \*1369 Juniper Rd.-Beautiful home on 2 large lots, 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, attached garage, landscaped w/ sprinkler system, covered patio. \$275,000 **REDUCED!** Also a 3rd adjacent lot available @ \$35,000
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