



LUCAS TURNER PHOTO

The I.O.O.F. building on the corner of 4th and Main Street in Meeker is currently home to Mountain Valley Bank. The building's exterior has been preserved to remain as historically accurate as possible, including the original 240,000 bricks that were mined and fired right here in Meeker. From an architectural perspective, the building's historical significance lies in its late 19th, early 20th century "Revival Style."

Mountain Valley Bank celebrates building heritage with 'penny drive'

By LUCAS TURNER
lucas@ht1885.com

MEEKER I Having served as a vital trading post for all of Northwestern Colorado in its early history, the Town of Meeker has its share of very old buildings, all with their own history. The I.O.O.F. building on the corner of 4th and Main is no exception.

Originally built in 1896-97 the building maintains its original late 19th and early 20th century "Revival Style" aesthetic, thanks to careful preservation and restoration efforts from Mountain Valley Bank who currently owns the property after purchasing it in 2004.

The letters "I.O.O.F." stand for "International Order of Odd Fellows," a fraternal organization dedicated to a mission to "visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphan."

The construction of "lodges" was a common practice for I.O.O.F., constructing thousands of buildings in the U.S. and around the world that could serve as orphanages, assisted care centers and more.

In addition to acting as meeting halls for the fraternal organization, they often served other roles like

retail spaces, performance venues, community recreation centers, etc.

Meeker's I.O.O.F. building, now the location of Mountain Valley Bank (MVB), has had many uses in its 100-plus year history, acting early on as the location of Rio Blanco County government offices. Other uses of the building included a dance-hall, theatre, roller-skating rink, music venue, telephone company offices and more. It is one of the oldest buildings in town, even preceding the Meeker Hotel and other well known buildings. It has also been called "Star Theatre" and "Rooney Hall" in the past.

In 2014, the building was officially recognized in the National Department of Interior's register of historic places, but not without a significant effort. Tawny Halandras, Market President of MVB's Meeker location, headed up a research endeavor to collect application materials for the historic designation. She says she spent a lot of time digging through Meeker Herald archives to find any mention of the building. Many excerpts from the work are now displayed in the bank's lobby area, to commemorate the building's history. Other

building related historical items at the bank include photographs, a pair of old skates and more.

The first mention of the I.O.O.F. building in the Meeker Herald was in 1896, stating, "The Odd Fellows of Meeker are getting a 'bump' on themselves at least as far as their new hall is concerned."

The second mention of the building chronicles a very interesting fact about the materials used in the original construction. It talks about how "Contractor Rourke fired the 'largest brick kiln ever burned in this town,' resulting in 240,000 bricks used to build the building, most of which are still there, at least on the exterior of the building."

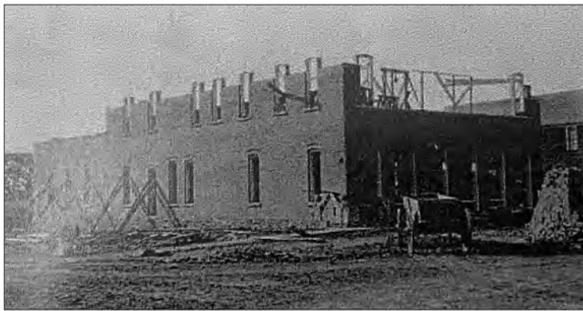
While researching the building's history, Halandras also discovered a historical pattern in Meeker. In multiple instances Meeker School District has been forced to close the elementary school for safety reasons, leaving the district with the challenge of finding a temporary location to teach young students. Since its original construction, the I.O.O.F. Valentine Lodge No. 47 has acted as one of those temporary school locations on three separate occasions throughout history.

Recognizing the historical significance of the building and I.O.O.F. in Meeker, MVB honors the order's "Red Letter Day" which is on April 26. Not by accident, the date also coincides with the original dedication of Meeker's I.O.O.F. building in 1897.

Halandras said normally the bank would have an open house, but to avoid creating a crowd, they've come up with another way to honor the building later this month: a "penny drive."

Halandras explained that the bank would challenge up to 12 businesses to collect pennies. Whichever business collects the most pennies by May 3, will win a large cheese and wine tray from Blanco Cellars.

Mountain Valley Bank will match up to 100,000 pennies to be donated between the Meeker Education Foundation and HopeWest. "Both of those groups really exemplify a lot of the same mission that the Odd Fellows did, like education and taking care of the old and the sick," said Halandras. MVB will also hand out homemade treats to customers and visitors on Red Letter Day.



WHITE RIVER MUSEUM/LUCAS TURNER PHOTO

(Top) the first floor was nearly completed in fall of 1896, and the building was finished by 1897. (Bottom) Two pairs of old roller skates hang inside the bank's lobby along with other building related historical artifacts.

SO IT BEGINS ...



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTO

A fire approximately eight miles up County Road 8 had several entities responding last Sunday afternoon. The fire was reported at about 1 p.m. and was caused by a private land agricultural burn that went out of control. It was 300 acres by Sunday evening and 800 acres 24 hours later. A helicopter and dozer assisted firefighting efforts. No structures were lost.

As of press time Wednesday, the fire was listed at 890 acres and was 80% contained. Smoke will continue to be visible in the area.

"Wildfire behavior is largely contingent upon weather and fuel conditions," a Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office press release stated. "Although crews have made excellent progress on the fire, the potential for fire activity remains high." A Fire Weather Watch is currently in place across southeast Utah and southwest Colorado.

As dry conditions continue, the public is reminded to be cautious to avoid unwanted human-caused fires.

CASA volunteers are voices for kids

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

RBC I In a perfect world, every parent would come into parenthood fully equipped with all the tools and training needed to raise their children. But this isn't a perfect world, and sometimes parents struggle and their kids suffer as a result. When that suffering — in the form of abuse or neglect — reaches the attention of the legal system, kids need someone to advocate for them in a system that is intimidating even for adults.

That's where CASA volunteers step up. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate.

After 15 hours of intensive training, volunteers are assigned to work with individual children to provide the constant support of an adult who doesn't have any agenda other than advocating for the child's needs.

"We're their voice in court," said Brittany Shonk of Meeker, who is the CASA Advocate Supervisor for the three-year-old CASA of the 9th Judicial District program for Rio Blanco County. Shonk was inspired to apply as a volunteer after seeing an ad for the program in the HT three years ago.

Advocates are assigned to work with children in cases where the legal system thinks it would be beneficial, and according to statistics provided by the national CASA website, their work is effective. "Judges report the impact of CASA/GAL volunteers is most pronounced in "promoting long-term wellbeing" (92.2%), followed by "appropriate services to child and family" (83%) and "psychological wellbeing" (79.9%)." (<https://nationalcasagal.org/our-impact/research-and-effectiveness/>)

RBC has about eight volunteers now, and every one of them has a case.

"Each advocate is assigned one case, start to finish," Shonk said. They're expected to meet face-to-face with the child or children at least twice a month, though most do more. They visit the child's home or school, go to the park, attend court dates and supervised family meetings with the Department of Human Services (DHS). With no in-county foster homes, advocates travel to communities to advocate for RBC kids in foster care.

"We listen to what they say," Shonk said. Advocates make recommendations to the court on behalf of the kids. If a child in foster care says they'd like to see their siblings more often, the advocate can share that with the judge.

For some children, their CASA connection may be a rare consistent adult relationship during a difficult period in their lives. Some children may see multiple caseworkers through DHS because of employee turnover, while their advocate stays the same.

"We save space with the kids. They will typically open up with us," Shonk said.

The pandemic demanded flexibility and adaptation from advocates, with face-to-face meetings replaced by virtual interaction on screens. The number of calls to the hotline reporting possible cases of neglect or abuse dropped dramatically as schools closed and people stayed behind closed doors.

"It was concerning, nobody having eyes on the kids," Shonk said. "That was scary for awhile."

One plus side of the shift to virtual meetings Shonk hopes will continue as things open up is that more parents are attending the court hearings for their cases than ever before.

"I'm really proud of the advocates here in RBC. They have gone above and beyond. It hasn't been easy through the pandemic," Shonk said.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, noted by the bright blue pinwheels placed around town along with signs and flyers. Those interested in volunteering with the CASA program are encouraged to call 970-987-4332.



LUCAS TURNER PHOTO

Blue pinwheels are a reminder April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

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Sun: 50s/20s

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COUNTY BEAT



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

RBC In work sessions Tuesday the Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners heard updates on the Meeker Airport water main supply line and drainage projects from Facilities Manager Eric Jaquez. The airport needs more water pressure and hydrants for fire suppression, and stormwater drainage has caused repetitive problems for homeowners just below the airport.

"I think it makes sense to put this project together while we're doing this other project," said Commissioner Jeff Rector, referencing planned repairs to the stormwater drainage.

Jaquez also alerted the commissioners to concerns surrounding some of the trees around the courthouse that sustained damage in an early snowstorm last fall.

"They're showing some issues," Jaquez said of four trees — a pine, two elms and an ash tree — that look like they might split or fall over, or show significant signs of rot. Costs for removal vary between \$4,000 and \$5,000. One of the trees blocks the view of concert goers during music events at the pavilion and has reportedly prompted complaints.

"This can be handled by the facilities budget," Jaquez said. "The bigger thing is we didn't just want to go and remove these trees. It's a very sensitive issue and we respect that. For us it's a safety concern," Jaquez said. "It may last another 10, 15 or 20 years and not have an issue, but we thought we should bring it to the board because of the size of the branches."

Commissioner Gary Moyer asked for an opportunity to look at the trees. "I'd like to have a look myself before we pull the trigger."

Jaquez said there's an opportunity to transition the facilities

tech position to a seasonal position to save money this year and allow for some flexibility in the department's staffing.

E.M. UPDATE

Eddie Smercina, emergency manager and natural resources director, updated the board on his activities, which included additional training and connections with various agencies, and accompanying U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert on a tour of the proposed Wolf Creek Reservoir.

Smercina said he is working with Callie Hendrickson from the conservation districts to "strengthen the language" in the county's land use plan, among other activities.

Leif Joy, county surveyor or among other titles, asked Smercina about discussion surrounding upgrades to the county's dispatch software as it relates to the county's GIS "backbone."

Commissioner Ty Gates, former county emergency manager, said the new software will bring the county into compliance with NextGen911 as well as legislation passed regarding law enforcement collection of information.

CR 4 BRIDGE

The possibility of replacing an overloaded bridge on County Road 4 was discussed in work sessions with Van Pilaud, who said he would like to use budgeted funds to replace the bridge. The bridge crosses the Highland Ditch.

Commissioner Gates said he had already fielded calls from concerned citizens who do not want to see the ditch shut off.

"I do not want to do that," Pilaud said. "I want to find out what the window of opportunity is. Whatever the demand on irrigation is, I want those folks to have it."

Pilaud said inspections by the Colorado Department of Transportation indicated this bridge is in need of repair to avoid load restrictions. Meeker Sand and Gravel and the county's

snowplows would be impacted by load restrictions if they were implemented.

"My fear is that most of these bridges in the county were built in a relatively short time frame to each other and if we don't start getting a program of improving the existing structures we're going to have a lot of structures go bad at the same time," Pilaud said.

ASPEN MANAGEMENT

Public Information and Program Manager Carly Thompson, with Smercina, updated the commissioners on a White River National Forest plan for management of aspen groves that is open for comment through April 20.

Scan the QR code (click in the digital edition) to view the full PDF and maps of the proposed plan, along with instructions for submitting public comment.



VIEW NOW

The proposal would improve habitat through the use of burning and mechanical operations in aspen habitat.

Commissioner Moyer said a presentation from Club 20 this month connected forest health and water. "Through the last 40 years of activism we're really seeing some detrimental results," Moyer said. "Anything that's active management we should support."

"I would agree," Gates said. "If we were more proactive in mitigating our forests we wouldn't have the big wildfire seasons we're having."

Adding logging activities back into forest mitigation might provide an economic benefit to the county, as well. "That's the tool that ultimately has the ability to pay the cost for forest management," Moyer added. "When

they lost that industry they lost the funding to be able to actively manage our forests."

The proposal would provide for 20,000 acres per decade of mitigation efforts.

PUBLIC HEALTH

"My guess is we won't be seeing it [Johnson & Johnson vaccine] here anytime soon," Public Health Director Alice Harvey said in response to the CDC's report that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine may be causing blood clots. Of more than 6.8 million doses administered, a handful of negative reactions were reported, prompting a warning from the CDC, but not a withdrawal of the vaccine.

Harvey said the Moderna vaccine available in Rio Blanco County is considered safe and encouraged those who are still unvaccinated to consider the Moderna option.

The county issued an official request to the state to be exempt from the mask mandate, but hasn't had a response back from the state.

"Nothing has changed on our end," Harvey said. Specific situations and businesses will still be subject to the mask mandate statewide, including child care centers, indoor children's camps, public-facing government facil-

ities, emergency medical and other health care settings (like hospitals, urgent care facilities, clinics and doctor's offices); personal services (like hair and nail salons, barbershops, esthetician services, tattoo shops).

Harvey said the number of positive cases, despite the presence of the variant strains, is down and she hopes that will continue.

CRYSTAL CREEK RANCH CPW SALE

The debate about whether the owners of Crystal Creek Ranch, which adjoins and includes part of Moffat County, can sell their property to Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) continued in a work session. Moffat County Commissioners have not weighed in on the topic.

The family that owns the property, the Seelys, asserted their rights as private citizens to sell to CPW. Neighboring property owners presented opposing concerns, from traffic to dust control to ditch maintenance to property values to change of use.

Outfitter Joe Wood shared his concerns about increased pressure on elk herds in the area.

Area Wildlife Manager Bill deVergie said he anticipates none of the perceived problems. "We are good neighbors," he

said. Commissioner Moyer said his concern is that the public (via CPW) isn't obligated to purchase private property, and if asked to support such a purchase can also oppose a purchase.

The board agreed to table the discussion of a letter about the Crystal Creek Ranch transaction in support of, against, or neutral till the next meeting.

In the regular meeting the board:

■ Went into executive session to discuss "threatened or pending litigation."

■ Appointed Donald Steerman as interim county attorney at \$225 per hour. A contract fee is expected to be negotiated in the next few weeks. Steerman has been handling human services cases for the county for more than a year.

■ Passed a resolution opposing Ballot Initiative 16 (Pause Act).

■ Passed a resolution opposing the 30 by 30 land conservation plan. "This is a really scary program," said Commissioner Rector. "I strongly encourage everyone to go research this."

■ In commissioner updates, all three commissioners commented on the meeting with U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert in Rangely.

Moyer recall petition moves forward

HT Staff

RBC A petition to recall Commissioner Gary Moyer was submitted to RBC Clerk and Recorder Boots Campbell on April 5 with 879 signatures. By state law, 747 signatures were required. Of the 879 signatures submitted, 20 were rejected.

Campbell determined that the petition was sufficient — meaning enough valid signatures were gathered to meet state requirements — on April 7.

During a 15-day protest period which began April 7, an eligible elector can file a written protest under oath in the Clerk

and Recorder's office claiming the reasons listed for the recall are invalid.

The petition lists the following reasons, or grounds, for recall:

■ "Commissioner Gary Moyer verbally abused and made unsubstantiated accusations against Public Health Nurse Alice Harvey in a public meeting on Feb. 9, 2021."

■ "Commissioner Gary Moyer misused his power by intimidating and terminating long-term, dedicated employees and department heads without prior notice, on impulse without having any plan in place for replacing them, leaving County Departments with a leadership

void and creating a fearful hostile work environment for all remaining employees."

■ "Commissioner Gary Moyer was instrumental in the attempt to eliminate the Rio Blanco County Dispatch Center without giving Citizens or the Sheriff the opportunity to voice their opposition or have any input on the decision."

■ "Commissioner Gary Moyer has repeatedly demonstrated a total lack of transparency in the manner in which he has conducted County business."

As of press time Wednesday, April 14, no official protest has been filed with the Clerk and Recorder's office.



Karen Iacuone-Dunham & Jason Dunham Benefit Event

**Saturday, April 17th
6:30 PM
Buffalo Hall at Chippers
285 6th Street**



**SILENT & LIVE AUCTION
DINNER**

Tacos by Chippers, sides by The Mexican House & The Fork

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Abilities *Social Emotional Skills *Self Help Skills

Friday, April 30, 2021

Rangely School District
Early Education Center
402 West Main St.
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Please call 970-675-2064
to schedule an appointment.

Preschool Registration



For children 4 years old,
on or before **JULY 1, 2021**

Friday, May 7, 2021
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Meeker Elementary School

Registration packets are available starting April 26th at
Meeker Elementary.

FCCLA members attend 2021 state conference

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | April 8-10, 2021, was an inspiring weekend of competition, recognition, and of course continuing leadership journeys for the Meeker FCCLA members who attended the 2021 Colorado FCCLA State Conference. Taking place virtually for the first time, members had opportunities to engage in workshops and showcase the leadership skills they developed throughout the year. MHS brought six students to this conference and experienced all the conference activities. From state officers hosting us through all the general sessions, highlighting chapters for their advocacy of family and consumer sciences, to the outside speakers shared their leadership tips

and hints, students were able to gain valuable leadership skills from this conference.

Students experienced workshops, where they virtually engaged with topics that focused on school nutrition, positive social media presence, careers in family and consumer sciences, and mental health. The morning was filled with a welcome from Maisy Wade, 2020-2021 Colorado State President from Wray, as well as a great opening session where attendees were introduced to state officer candidates, and special guests and discovered important milestones and achievements Colorado FCCLA has accomplished in its 75 years as a state charter. Attendees also heard from keynote speaker Ashley Brinton, who talked about how we individually can find success if we

put our minds, goals and heart to it.

All the hard work our chapter put into competitive events finally paid off! Students were able to compete in 43 events. Meeker High School was proud to have students compete in four different events. Junior Hadley Franklin took second place in repurpose and redesign, senior Sierra Gomez took second place in career investigation, freshman Jessi Pelloni took first place in leadership, and senior Cori Mohr took first place in job interview.

Looking ahead to the next FCCLA opportunity, winners are able attend the National Leadership Conference either virtually or in Nashville, Tennessee, June 27-July 2, 2021. Meeker FCCLA is ready to continue on our FCCLA journey with the Ultimate Leadership Experience.



COURTESY PHOTO
FCCLA members pictured from left to right are Cori Mohr, Mariah Hood, Jessica Pelloni, Sophia Goedert, Sierra Gomez and Hadley Franklin.

NEWS BRIEFS

Historical society quarterly meeting

MEEKER | The Rio Blanco County Historical Society quarterly meeting is set for April 18 at 2 p.m. at the Heritage Culture Center. Bring your own lunch and enjoy presentations from the 8th grade history class.

VA resource tour April 21

RANGELY | The VA Western Colorado Health Care System invites all veterans to a resource tour on April 21 from 1-6 p.m. at the Rangely Recreation Center, 611 S. Stanolind. Get information about VA health care enrollment, VA benefits and administration, vet center, VA programs and support. For more information call 970-314-6597.

MACC bringing back community theater

MEEKER | Individuals interested in performing or behind-the-scenes participation in community theater are encouraged to attend the next Meeker Arts and Cultural Council (MACC) on Monday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m. at the Heritage Culture Center. MACC is planning a return of community theater to Meeker this summer.

R100 returning to Meeker this June

MEEKER | The Meeker Sportsman's Club is proud to be hosting the R100 again in 2021. Promote your business and be seen at the event by over 500 participants. The R100 will be held June 25-27 this year. We are expecting 500-plus participants. We would like to offer you this opportunity to be a part of this event. All sponsorship forms are due by May 10. If you have any questions, please contact: Cassie McGuire at 970-665-8822.

Oldtimers Association meeting May 8

RBC | There will be an Old Timers Association meeting on May 8 at 2:30 p.m. at the Heritage Culture Center at 525 Park St. The meeting is an open invitation to anyone with an interest in the future plans and activities of the Rio Blanco County Pioneers Association. If you plan to attend, please be ready with suggestions for maintaining traditional activities for the Old Timers and the RBCPA. Contacts for the meeting are Daryl LeFevre (darita@qwestoffice.net) or Roberta Watt (pianolady1947@yahoo.com).

RBWCD

RURAL WATER

The Feasibility Report Is In!

RBWCD is holding our next discussion concerning the Rural Water Project. This public meeting will determine if we will be moving onto the next step. It is of high importance that if you are interested in potable water service to your rural Rangely home that you attend.

Monday, April 26, 2021

6:30-8:00 PM

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32 oz. Gatorade	DRINKS	4 for \$5
6-8.8 oz. Ben's	READY RICE	2 for \$4
12-16 oz. Food Club	PASTA	99¢
11-14.3 oz. Crav'n Flavor	COOKIES	\$1.79
11-16 oz. Nature Valley	GRANOLA CEREAL	\$3.49
5 ct. Nature Valley	PROTEIN BARS	\$3.49
5 ct. GM Fiber One	CHEWY BAR	\$3.49
62.5-75 oz. Arm & Hammer Liquid Laundry	DETERGENT	\$3.99
24 ct. Arm & Hammer Plus Oxi Clean	POWER PACKS	\$3.99
6 ct. Flora	PAPER TOWELS	\$4.99
12 ct. Flora	BATH TISSUE	\$4.99

MEAT

Boneless	NEW YORK STEAK	\$8.99/lb.
20 oz. Hormel	MAC-N-CHEESE TRAY	\$2.99
20 oz. Food Club	BACON	\$5.99

FROZEN

8-12 oz. Pict Sweet	VEGETABLES	\$1.79
12 oz. Food Club	ORANGE JUICE	2 for \$3
16 oz. Ben & Jerry's	ICE CREAM	2 for \$7
130 ct. Totinos	PIZZA ROLLS	\$10.99

DAIRY

64 oz. Sunny D	ORANGE JUICE	\$1.19
6 oz. Food Club	YOGURT	10 for \$4
32 oz. Wide Awake	CREAMER	\$2.49
64 oz. Full Circle	ALMOND MILK	\$2.79
5.3 oz. Chobani	FLIPS	5 for \$5
32 oz. Mountain High	YOGURT	\$2.99
1 lb. Kraft	AMERICAN SINGLES	\$4.99
8 oz. Food Club	CREAM CHEESE	3 for \$5

PRODUCE

3 lb. bag Mandarin	TANGERINES	\$4.99
2 lb.	STRAWBERRIES	\$3.99
Fresh	CAULIFLOWER	89¢/lb.
5 lb. bag Russet	POTATOES	99¢
Whole	COCONUT	2 for \$5
Hawaiian	PAPAYAS	\$4.99
3 ct. Romaine	LETTUCE HEARTS	2 for \$4

Fresh Artichokes 4 for \$5

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Progress, not perfection

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

Anyone else fall into some pandemic-inspired bad habits you're now trying to change? Whether it's snacking all day while working from home or skipping exercise because you can't get to the gym or digging yourself into debt with online shopping or spending entirely too many hours scrolling social media, you may be ready to take some positive steps toward change and growth.

I'm learning how to knit again. The last time I attempted knitting was when I was in elementary school. I had a little instruction from a family friend, and then taught myself from an instructional book with pictures, so some of the process is familiar to me. I have realized I learned everything backward, because I copied the pictures in

the book without flipping the image... I basically taught myself to knit left-handed, even though I'm right-handed.

I've been working on a simple pattern, and I've taken it apart so many times my yard is thinning out in places. Ordinarily I would get frustrated and annoyed because I haven't gotten the project finished yet, but I'm learning a lesson that's applicable all the way around: progress, not perfection.

Every time I take out a row of stitches the next row is going to be better. I'm making progress, even if I'm not doing it perfectly. It's a good reminder. Progress gets us places.

Do your best and forget the rest.



Kaye Sullivan

KAYE'S CORNER

Wildfire evacuation

By **KAYE SULLIVAN**
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Sadly, wildfire season is back. It's only early April and Rio Blanco County has a serious fire. Jay and I saw it erupt while on a leisurely drive upriver on Sunday afternoon. The smoke spread rapidly and as we returned to town, we could see the fires spreading up the hillside in leaps and bounds.

By the next day, it had erupted to some 800 acres in just a few hours. Others will report the status of this situation, so my article is to remind you and me to be ready to evacuate in case of wildfire.

Despite a well-intentioned effort to develop a fire evacuation plan, I didn't finish it. Now I must! I am reminded yet again that wildfire season is upon us and we must all be prepared.

If you wait until the last minute, you may forget essential belongings, make random decisions, or panic. Keep in mind that even if the fire is not at your doorstep, the smoke inhalation may be overwhelming or the threat of approaching fire to your property increase.

As the Boy Scouts say, "Be Prepared." That means several things in case of wildfire evacuation. Have a plan for these essentials.

Coordinate your family members so you can connect or meet up at a designated place. Also

consider a remote contact person to support your communications in case your power goes out or cell phone service gets overwhelmed.

Pet safety and removal may be essential. How will you get your cats, dogs, horses, and pets to a safe place?

Prescriptions and basic foods need to go with you too. In the west, it is always important to stay hydrated so create a

stash of your essential travel drinks and snacks. Folks dependent on their meds must evacuate with them.

Electronic devices including phone, chargers, readers, chargers, laptops, chargers should all get packed. Get the theme here? Your digital items won't serve you long without recharging, so grab all those cables and cords. Our devices may be our lifelines to remaining in communication, so keep them charged and at the ready.

Clothing means packing at least a few changes of clothes so you will feel somewhat fresh and wearing your own clothes. I know clothing is not essential. Still, if you're freezing in our cool Colorado nights, you will appreciate a jacket. Pack your kids' loaves and one favorite toy so they will have some comfort while life pends.

Essential papers include items such as birth certificates, social security cards, and COVID

► See **FIRE**, Page 6A

LOOSE ENDS

Civility

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

MEEKER I Unfortunately, it appears that we are long past the age of civility. Public and private discourse alike show numerous signs foretelling the extinction of manners. Using some restraint after a heated argument, as well as resisting the urge toward slinging sarcasm are not communication skills we see very often anymore.

Growing up in a large family, I remember reminders from my mother cautioning us all be civil

to one another. I knew she wanted us to be able to let go of all the petty arguments that cropped up daily. Exasperated by the constant battles between the five of us, she would throw up her hands and blurt out, "Just be civil, would you?"

It is obvious that not many of us heard it often enough as we were growing up. There were all sorts of unspoken rules for public behavior in every family. Teaching children to show respect to others, as well as helping the youngest among us to understand

the importance of kindness, was the norm. It was expected.

The adults in the community modeled these behaviors. They used measured tones, as well as a modicum of polite statements. That seemed to be the only way to effectively communicate with each other. They debated vociferously and occasionally some of them seemed to lose control but



Dolly Viscardi

usually the rest of the participants held their emotions in check.

Learning kindness and showing understanding towards others begins early. Toddlers demonstrate it naturally and are ahead of all of us in so many ways. If practice makes perfect, we would be wise to take some of these old childhood skills out of the closet and brush up on using them regularly.

HEADS UP

CLEAN UP

In accordance with the Meeker Municipal Code #8.20.103, we will be notifying home owners and residents to clean up your property with door hanger reminders.

This includes some of the following items:

- furniture
- tree limbs
- pallets
- appliances
- parted out vehicles
- tires

If you have any questions, please call 970-878-5344

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN
TOWN OF MEEKER ~ MEEKER POLICE DEPARTMENT ~ CODE ENFORCEMENT

HELP US CELEBRATE RED LETTER DAY APRIL 26TH

by participating in a Penny Drive in honor of the founding day of the Odd Fellows in North America!

Mountain Valley Bank is challenging local businesses to join the drive. Take all your pennies to your favorite local business and help them WIN by May 3rd.

Mountain Valley Bank will match up to 100,000 pennies of those donated. All funds raised will go to the Meeker Education Foundation and HopeWest.

www.bankmvp.com

RBC PUBLIC HEALTH VACCINE CLINICS

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available to the general public, which includes all adults age 18+. Community clinics are limited to Rio Blanco County residents*.

For more information about phases, please visit:
covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine

For schedules and updates, please visit:
www.rbc.us/629/COVID-19-Vaccinations

**Proof of residency required may include utility bills, lease, photo ID, pay stubs or similar documentation.*

<p>Rangely Vaccines Clinics BOOSTERS & FIRST DOSES</p> <p>---</p> <p>Walk-in Clinics</p> <p>Thursday, Apr. 15, 3 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Apr. 22, 3 to 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 125 Eagle Crest St.</p>	<p>Meeker Vaccine Clinics BOOSTERS & FIRST DOSES</p> <p>---</p> <p>Walk-in Clinic</p> <p>Thursday, Apr. 15, 2 to 6 p.m. Fairfield Center, 200 Main St.</p> <p>Drive-Through Clinic</p> <p>Monday, Apr. 19, 4 to 6 p.m. RBC Fairgrounds 700 Sulphur Creek Rd.</p>
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Testing Schedule:

In Meeker: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10-11am at the Fairfield Center, NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED. Vehicles will be served in order of arrival.

In Rangely: by appointment *only*, please call (970) 878-9525 for appointment.

RBC Department of Public Health & Environment
970-878.9520 Meeker • 970.878.9525 Rangely
Questions? Email publichealth@rbc.us

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— PUBLISHER —
Solas Publications, Inc.
— ADS & DESIGN —
Caitlin Walker
ads@ht1885.com
— SUBSCRIPTIONS —
accounts@ht1885.com

— EDITORIAL —
Niki Turner - Editor
editor@ht1885.com
Lucas Turner - Journalist
lucas@ht1885.com

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Your award-winning community newspaper, serving the citizens of Rio Blanco County since 1885.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bofinger clarifies PMC board resignation

Dear Editor:
I have had the privilege of serving on the board of directors, for Pioneers Medical Center. Pioneers is a unique part of our community in that it is one of the counties larger employers with an amazing and committed staff. The entire staff is committed to the health and care of our community! I am very proud and honored to have been a part of such an organization.

Regrettably, I have decided to resign my position on the board for a number of reasons. Since resigning, I have heard some remarkable rumors as to why I have resigned and felt I owed it to Pioneers and the community to clarify my reasons for resigning.

The first and foremost reason is trust. During a recent board meeting, a board member wrongfully violated another board member's request for confidentiality regarding a senior staff member's concern. That confidential information was shared with the hospital's CEO, minutes after multiple board members voiced concerns regarding maintaining confidentiality during executive board sessions. These concerns have been brought up numerous times over the last few months. Other members of the board have not voiced concerns from staff due to the lack of trust throughout the board. The staff member requested autonomy due to fear of reprisal if the executive branch of the hospital were to find out. This board member violated this trust. When this action was pointed out by myself to all the board as being wrong, nothing happened. This board member did not apologize for breaking that trust nor did the board chair take any corrective actions or express concern. A third board member voiced that the board member's behavior was appropriate and had no concerns with the violation of the confidentiality.

I am unable to participate in a group where I can not trust the people in the organization.

The second reason is that if I am unable to help improve an organization for whatever the reason, personality conflicts, or in the minority of how an organization should move forward, then I need to

allow someone else to bring their voice to the table and help move the hospital forward.

Pioneers Medical Center is an amazing organization made up of mostly local people who do a superb job of taking care of our community. I don't know that I have ever met a more compassionate and committed group of people. It is unfortunate we have lost a large number of our locals for a variety of reasons.

I strongly encourage anyone with the time to attend the board meetings. They are very informative and this is where you, the community, get to voice your desires for your hospital and its future.

Very respectfully,
Brian Bofinger
Meeker

Rector supports Moyer

Dear Editor:
The recall petition should have not have been approved nor validated, based on the fact that the reasons listed on the petition are based on false statements. Commissioner Moyer has a very strong conservative opinion, no doubt, and our board has had to make several very difficult budget decisions with more to come for 2022, but there has been no valid reason for a recall. I would encourage everyone to please get the facts and realize that we are making decisions as a board, one person alone can not be blamed. I'm happy to answer any questions any citizens have on this or any other county matter.

Thank you,
Jeff Rector
RBC Commissioner

Freedom

Dear Editor:
This year "freedom" is a battle cry. It is a battle cry today as much as it was in 1776. In the early days of our republic our leaders pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the pursuit of

freedom.
Our military service members, past and present, have long lived by the refrain, "Freedom is not free." In between those words, is a long pause to give us understanding deeper than the belief that we can do anything we want. At some time, in some place, payment will be exacted. Further, it is the selfless act by some that gives the gift of freedom to us all both military and civilian.

When patriots tossed tea into Boston Harbor the shout, "No taxation without representation!" was not a rejection of taxes, it was a demand that those paying the tax have a voice in how much would be paid to whom and for what reasons. Hence a government of elected representatives who would give voice to the will of the people. This is the transformative concept that government is to serve the people who are governed. The historic position that the people serve the will of the elite who hold the power is turned upside down. Might for right is the seed of democracy. Might makes right is the club of the oppressor.

As a citizen of America, I hold the traditions of America's West sacred. I believe in the Cowboy traditions of doing my share and more, helping my neighbors, standing up for what is right, speaking truth from the platform of our first amendment and defending the truth of our collective rights with the second amendment.

Louis L'Amour is one of my favorite story tellers chronicling the settling of the West. In his novels of the Sackett family building America, he speaks of the law of the gun. In his stories he clearly states that the mantra of might makes right is the opposite of civilization. In fact, it is anarchy breeding chaos where force serves the interests of the few in opposition to what is right. L'Amour is a champion of law enforced by good men who use might for the common good. From good men and women working cooperatively together comes order.

On Jan. 6, 2021, a mob attacked our nation's capital. NBC News reported that a dozen guns and thousands of rounds of ammunition were found on seven people arrested before and after the capitol riot. NBC also reported a Colorado man drove to Washington with an assault-style Tavor X95 rifle, a Glock 9mm, and more than 2,500 rounds of

ammunition along with 320 rounds of armor-piercing bullets. People were killed in this insurrectionist attack on our institutions. When asking the question of, "Why?" some said it was to keep Joe Biden from being certified as the next president and to keep Donald Trump in office.

There is potentially a much more sinister purpose in play. Some media outlets have claimed that extremist groups have planned this attack on our police forces and fire departments to create such chaos that they can, with impunity, kill anyone they don't like, black, brown, white, politician or just anyone they disagree with.

During Spring Break 2021 on the CU Boulder Colorado Campus university students rioted. They attacked police. They damaged police cars and fire trucks. They said it was their right.

Are you kidding me?
Is this what Jan. 6, 2021 taught them?
What happened to Louis L'Amour's ordered society?

Can you honestly tell me that you believe that beating, shooting and killing anyone who disagrees with you is good for sustaining our democracy? Do you believe that the rule of anarchy through chaos is better than the rule of law and order? Are your arguments so weak your only recourse is violence?

Freedom is not free. There is a price to be paid for the opportunity to make the choices that are best for us individually and collectively. We can not think that what is good for the individual is where we stop thinking. We must think deeper than skin color. We must think deeper than my way or the highway. We must value our collective consciousness for what diversity brings us. It is not what others take away from us but rather what we gain together by sharing. Stop counting your votes and reach across the aisle. The price of democracy is shared decision making.

Our battle cry is freedom because our lives depend on it. Our battle cry is freedom because our prosperity depends on it. Our battle cry is freedom because our honor demands it. This is our truth.

J.B. Sullivan
Meeker

ERBM UPDATE

Spring update

By SEAN VONROENN
ERBM Executive Director

MEEKER I It is always so rewarding for us here at ERBM to see our local parks come alive with activity in the spring season; whether it's anglers at the new Circle Park Pond, bikes on the trails, teams on the fields, lunchtime fitness walkers, skaters at the action park, archers at the range, or any other healthy usage that builds the quality of life in our community we all enjoy. Several special ERBM updates that you'll want to be sure to note this spring can be grouped into the following categories: Parks, Projects, and Programs.

Parks:
Arbor Day is an annual spring observance where citizens are encouraged to plant new trees and care for existing trees within their community. ERBM will recognize this year's Arbor Day at Circle Park at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 23 with a public tree planting ceremony, as well as essay contest whereby citizens can submit a one page essay under the title "Why I Want a Tree" to the Meeker Recreation Center by April 16.

Another local park initiative includes ERBM's recently adopted Tribute Tree and Memorial Bench Program whereby any interested citizen can donate a tribute tree or memorial bench to be placed in one of our public parks to celebrate an occasion or remember someone close to you. Learn more about this program at: <https://www.erbmmec.com/tributetree> or by calling ERBM's Administrative Offices at 970-878-3403.

Projects:
The Meeker Recreation Center (MRC) will undergo some important maintenance work and infrastructure updates in May. Specifically, all MRC pools will be closed from Monday, May 3 through Sunday, May 23, as the lap and spa pools receive a full resurfacing, and the plumbing leak discovered last year under the pool deck near the pump operations room is excavated and repaired. Additionally, the full MRC facility will be closed Saturday, May 15 through Sunday, May 23, to accommodate normal deep cleaning and maintenance; new flooring installation in the fitness room, lounge and office areas; as well as

several new technology updates for the center.

Finally, ERBM is thrilled to announce the Circle Park Pond Project Grand Opening and CPW Youth Fishing Day on Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Fishing instruction and associated activities will kick-off at 9 a.m. A short ceremony to recognize our many partners on the pond project will take place at 11 a.m., followed by a free lunch. Come on out for a great morning of celebration and activities for the whole family including cornhole and inflatable.

The details of the proposed second phase of Circle Park improvements and river corridor enhancements that ERBM has worked to collaboratively design and engineer in partnership with the Town of Meeker is currently available online at <https://www.erbmmec.com/circleparkphase2>. ERBM and the Town of Meeker welcomes feedback from the public on this project and will be actively reviewing all input as well as pursuing grant opportunities and additional partnerships before moving forward with any portion of this project.

Programs:
All the warm weather activity is especially exciting when viewed in light of the ongoing public health crisis and our continued collective efforts as a community to combat and overcome. This summer's ERBM activity Line-Up brochure will be an online digital copy again as we work to remain responsive to fluctuations in public health restrictions related to parks and recreation. We do know that summer will be full of concerts, races, events and endless activities; so like our ERBM Facebook page, look for notices on registration dates for you and your family and get signed up early.
Finally, as ERBM navigates the local economic downturn in a thoughtful and strategic manner we are committed to ongoing transparency. Please review a copy of the ERBM 2020 Annual Report (<https://www.erbmmec.com/annualreport>) which highlights the tremendous efforts over the past year to continue providing as broad and holistic services as possible to the residents, visitors and future generations of Eastern Rio Blanco County.

GUEST COLUMN

How I came to respect centrists

By MARK HILLMAN
Capitol Review

RBC I Sticks in the mud. Overly cautious. Obstacles to progress.

That's how I've tended to view political moderates — especially those in my own party. As a 30-something state legislator (1999-2005) deeply committed to individual liberty, limited government and personal responsibility, I often grew frustrated with moderate Republicans who always seemed to move too slowly toward those goals.

I remember telling Republican activists: "The most significant legislation often passes by the narrowest margin" and "nobody is motivated by moderation."

Today, as progressive Democrats — and some Republicans — say many of those same things to drive moderates to the sideline, my exasperation with "centrist" lawmakers has evolved into grudging admiration — at least for those willing to stand strong for their beliefs. When emboldened, centrists in both parties serve an important function that benefits the vast majority of citizens who aren't died-in-the-wool Republicans or Democrats: they slow the pace of change.

In a country as evenly and fiercely divided as ours has been for at least 20 years, the public shouldn't be subjected to political whiplash when a few thousand votes in a handful of states narrowly shift power from one party to the other.

Convincing a skeptical centrist to support legislation can be like reasoning with that relative or neighbor who picks apart every one of your ideas but ultimately makes them work

better. Accommodating centrists can be the difference between governing by executive order — which may last only until the next election — and actually passing legislation into law.

In Colorado where Democrats control the executive and legislative branches, some new legislation and ballot initiatives are so odious and disrespectful to small business and rural voters that local governments responsible for enforcement have simply decided to ignore the law — taking a cue from Democrats who govern "sanctuary cities" and refuse to enforce immigration laws.

The governing majority could help restore civility if it simply practiced what it once preached about respecting the rights of the minority and refrained from making every progressive policy into a statewide mandate. Although the bulk of Colorado's population clusters along the Front Range, those who live in the other 90 percent of the state's land mass deserve deference.

Is it so unreasonable to craft compromises that are mutually beneficial so the majority rules but minority concerns are accommodated? Some will call this "selling out." But it's the same "horse trading" that routinely results in win-win agreements in our personal and professional lives, making America different from countries where majority rule is absolute and minority views are crushed.

For example, large majorities of Americans favor both secure borders and legal citizenship for those who came here illegally but have lived in the U.S. productively for many years. Republicans generally oppose the citizenship component, while Democrats oppose an

impervious border. Today, we have the worst of both — a border disaster in every sense.

Likewise, voters overwhelmingly want our elections to be both convenient and secure. Republicans are slowly accepting early or mail-in voting with proper safeguards. However, Democratic politicians protest that requiring voter identification will result in vote suppression — though it hasn't suppressed legitimate sales of beer, tobacco or legal drugs.

In each case, it's extreme partisanship that prevents government from giving most voters what they want.

Statesmanship is what we once called the art of understanding what's important to others and helping them achieve those ends without violating our own principles.

It is even possible for people — including politicians — from opposing parties to build genuine friendships yet remain true to their beliefs. President Ronald Reagan and Democratic Speaker Tip O'Neill famously regarded each other as friends despite political disagreements. Finding true friends in the opposing party makes it easier to apply the Golden Rule: "Treat others the way you want to be treated."

That doesn't need to change what we believe about important issues, but it should deter a scorched-earth, win-at-all-costs thirst for political power which only leads to more bitterness, resentment and deepening divisions.

Mark Hillman served as Senate Majority Leader and Senate Minority Leader. To read more or comment, go to www.MarkHillman.com.

The First Commandment: The Law Concerning Religion (3)

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



Dr. J.D. Watson

The first commandment of God's Moral Law is straightforward and absolute. **Thou shalt have no other gods before me.** Based that Old Testament Commandment, we turn to a third principle.

The Combined Confrontation

While "confrontation" is a strong term, it is entirely warranted. Its basic idea of conflict between and the clashing of opposing forces is obvious. Why do people want to expunge the Ten Commandments from our culture? Because God's Law confronts and condemns their sin! On one side is the force of the sovereign, creative God of the universe and on the other is the force of a totally rebellious race that by its very nature resists all that God is and all He says. God's Law is, indeed, confrontational! It confronts unbeliever and believer alike. This first commandment, in fact, underscores this principle from the very beginning in two closely related ways

First, there are false religions. Man and his multiple manufactured religions openly oppose the only true God of the universe. Whole books have been written on this subject, but the bottom line is that every religion other than biblical Christianity is false because it denies that salvation comes by way of human works, effort, and merit, while biblical Christianity is based on God's grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone (Rom. 3:20-28; Eph. 2:1-10; Titus 3:3-7; etc.). Even *atheism* is a religious worldview. Why? Simply because it is rooted in *personal faith*, not *proven fact*. As one honest atheist writes, "My attitude is not based

on science, but rather on faith. . . . The absence of a Creator, the non-existence of God is my childhood faith, my adult belief, unshakable and holy" (George Klein, *The Atheist in the Holy City*, 203).

Second, there are also *fake* gods, that is idols, which are often at the core of false religions. What is idolatry? Noah Webster, who was a devout Christian, provides us with an interesting definition of idolatry in the 1828 edition of his *Dictionary of American English*, which is saturated with biblical definitions:

"1. The worship of idols, images, or any thing made by hands, or which is not God. Idolatry is of two kinds; the worship of images, statues, pictures, etc. made by hands; and the worship of the heavenly bodies, the sun, moon and stars, or of demons, angels, men and animals. 2. Excessive attachment or veneration for any thing, or that which borders on adoration."

Idolatry, then, is: the worshipping of an object as *another* god, in any way venerating an object as a representation of the *True* God, or adoring any object to the *level* of God. Idols are numerous and varied. While we tend to picture an idol as a stone or wooden image carved by an artisan in a primitive culture, *an idol, can be anything we love more than, or even as much as, God.* Every one of us must ask the question, "What do I love, and does it ever come before God?"

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

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FIRE: be prepared and make a plan for possible evacuations now

► Continued from Page 4A

vaccination cards plus similar documents. These can be scanned, loaded on a thumb drive, and ready to leave with just one small item containing your essential documents.

Treasured items are all your family photographs, memorabilia of days gone by, art, and anything that tugs at your heartstrings. It is better to decide while

you're sane, not at the last minute. If you consider this tough topic in advance, it will be easier to leave with the right things.

Where will you go? Consider your evacuation destination. Do you have friends or family you could stay with? Take all your vehicles if you can. Are they full of gas? Can you reside in your RV, travel trailer, or tent? Often, in mass evacuations it is difficult to find basics like gas and food. Don't assume you can find essentials in route as everyone else will be in the same

mess. Same with lodging.

Money considerations include it may be wise to keep some cash on hand for evacuations. ATM's get overwhelmed in crisis. Take your wallet, credit cards, and driver's license.

Ask for help. If you need assistance loading out your stuff, securing your animals, finding temporary housing, acquiring food, or whatever, please don't hesitate to ask ... neighbors, law enforcement, religious and social services, helpful citizens ... just

ask. Meeker is a caring community and we all know wildfires could happen to any of us.

For all of us, it is easy to assume "it won't happen to us." Yet, in western Colorado, I feel we must remain vigilant and not expect our valiant firefighters to keep safe us every time. Please be prepared to evacuate if wildfires invade.

Wildfire season, here again already!

OBITUARIES

Dean Burke

April 18, 1928 ~ April 3, 2021

Lifelong Piceance Creek resident Dean Burke passed away on Saturday, April 3, 2021, at the Walbridge Wing in Meeker, Colorado, at the age of 92.

Dean was born on April 18, 1928, in Meeker, Colorado, the 12th of 15 children born to Fred and Annie (Jones) Burke, right before his twin brother, Dale.

At a young age, he recognized the importance of hard work and loved ones. All the children were expected to help with the chores; it was a very tight-knit family.

Dean attended the Burke rural schoolhouse located one mile from the ranch where he continued school through the eighth grade. The only time he was away from his twin brother, Dale, was when Dean spent a summer guiding at Mesa Lake and then worked during the winter crushing gravel at a gravel pit near Grand Junction. Upon returning to Piceance Creek, he worked as a cowboy for the Oldland Brothers Ranch. Later, he found employment with the Square S Ranch with his brothers, Dale and Lex, until being drafted into the U.S. Army in June of 1954. He spent two years (or as he would say, "One year, 11 months, and 14 days") in the military serving primarily in France alongside his brother Dale, as a 42nd Field Hospital cook. After an honorable discharge in 1956, he returned home to Piceance Creek to work with his brothers on the family ranch where

he remained for the rest of his life.

On Sept. 23, 1966, Dean joined hand in marriage to Elvina Fern Proctor who had two children, Tracy Lynn and Clinton Edward, whom Dean adopted and raised as his own. From this union, he had two sons, K.C. Richard and James (Jim) Dale and one daughter, Carol Luann.

A particular interest of Dean's was his love of creating works of art with leather. He made items including belts, chaps, billfolds, checkbook covers, and was specifically proud of building a few saddles.

Throughout his lifetime, Dean enjoyed the companionship of several dogs, but there was one that was most memorable to him, Curly. He loved the company of an enjoyable cowhorse and a good dog. He was acknowledged as a great hand and an excellent horseman.

Dean was known for his generosity and giving spirit. He grew up with little monetary means, but never talked about feeling like he missed out on anything. During his youth, he could never remember going to bed hungry. He was very proud that his mother was able to make ends meet for all the kids. He said he felt cared for and enjoyed spending life growing up with his siblings. Dean always found a way to share what he had with others. He will be remembered for having one of the biggest and kindest hearts

known to all of his family and friends.

Dean was preceded in death by: his wife Elvina Fern, and daughter Tracy Lynn; his father Fred and mother Annie; seven brothers: Jim, Dick, Tom, Casey, Freddie, Dale and Lex; and six sisters: Mary, Anna, Winnie, Claire, Nancy and Nettie.

He is survived by: his brother Pat; his sons Clinton, K.C. (Heather) and James (Stacey) Burke, and daughter Carol (Mike) Grinstead; grandkids Shelby, Peyton, Kinzy, Kale, Pake, and Makenna in addition to numerous nieces and nephews.

Dean's family would like to extend their gratitude to the staff at Pioneers Medical Center and the Walbridge Wing for their love and compassion with Dean's care throughout the years. A memory of life service will be held on Saturday, May 29 at 10 a.m. at the Extension Service Building at the county fairgrounds in Meeker, Colorado. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Walbridge Wing.



Dean Burke

Nancy Ellen Green

April 12, 1938 ~ April 12, 2021

Nancy Ellen Green passed away peacefully on April 12, 2021, her 83rd birthday. She was born in Torrington, Wyoming, to John and Helen Anderson in 1938. She was the oldest of five children. She spent most of her childhood in the great state of Wyoming as her father was an early oil field drilling pioneer. She graduated from the University of Wyoming with a bachelor's degree in education in 1962. She was an elementary school teacher in Santa Ana, California, for 10 years before moving to Rangely, Colorado, in 1976. She continued to teach in Dinosaur, Colorado, for a few years and then worked as Rio

Blanco County Clerk of Court until her retirement in 1991.

Nancy loved her home state of Wyoming. Whenever she crossed the state line she would say she could just breathe better. She was a huge Denver Broncos fan and spent many Sundays cheering for her team. She was full of life and loved having her family and lots of people around especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her daughter Alicia (Mike) Cushman of Rangely, Colorado; her granddaughter Kirstin (Jeff) Fielder of Rangely, Colorado; Kindal (Brittanie) Cushman of Stanley, North Dakota; brothers Jerry (Susie) Anderson of

Redstone, Colorado, and Jeff Anderson of Surprise, Arizona. She is also survived by six great-grandchildren Keighton, Keaston and Kowynn Cushman and Tylee, Cooper and Ryker Fielder and too many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews to name.

She is preceded in death by her parents John and Helen Anderson, her sister Judy Burnham and her brother Richard "Earthquake" Anderson.

There will be a graveside service Friday, April 16 at 1 p.m. at the Rangely Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Blackburn Vernal Mortuary.

DEATH NOTICES

Virginia C. 'Dolly' Erickson

June 20, 1943 ~ April 10, 2021

Betty Loraine Oba Massey

April 29, 1931 ~ April 12, 2021

Services will be held on Saturday, April 24 at 1 p.m. at the LDS Church. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Meeker Library.



DO THINGS A BETTER WAY.



At Bank of the San Juans we know a lot about banking. But we know even more about people. And the first thing we ever learned was to treat folks the way you want to be treated. Seems pretty simple.



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Member EQUAL HOUSING LENDER FDIC



NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Let us know who you think is the
best of Highways 13 & 40!

Nominations are open:
April 12 through April 25

Voting takes place:
May 2 through May 15

TO NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITES GO TO:
www.craigdailypress.com/Bestofhwy13&40

OBITUARY POLICY

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

AGNC counties advocate for local gov participation in wolf process

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Members of the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) submitted a letter to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission advocating for the creation of a Local Government Advisory Group to provide for meaningful county participation in the development of the Colorado wolf introduction plan. Proposition 114 authorized the reintroduction of gray wolves on designated lands in Colorado west of the continental divide beginning no later than Dec. 31, 2023. The development plan thus far outlined by the CPW Commission provides for convening a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG). The SAG is expected to consist of 12-16 members to represent 13 different interests relegating counties to minimal input

in a process that has significant impact. Counties are responsible to their constituents for the health, safety, and welfare of their communities. When state or federal agencies need assistance, the counties are responsible for providing that support. Counties are expected to develop land use and resource management plans which need to be considered when it comes to decisions being made by state and federal entities. AGNC requests that counties across the designated areas west of the Continental Divide be included in a Local Government Advisory Group to provide meaningful insights to the wolf introduction plan. Minimal county representation on the SAG will not adequately address the various issues and concerns across the broad landscape of the Western Slope. AGNC Chairman, Commissioner Mike Samson stated, "Voters in our counties

understand the significant economic impact wolves will have on our wildlife and ag producers. Our members recognize that the state has an obligation to follow through with introduction of wolves in our communities; the counties and the state also have obligations to those who live, work and play in those counties. It is critical that our members be included in the planning process in a meaningful way." AGNC members have made it clear to the administration, the Department of Natural Resources and Colorado Parks and Wildlife that county land use, private land provisions and socio-economic pressures of the ballot measure need to be appropriately addressed. Those concerns cannot be addressed by excluding western Colorado counties from a meaningful role in developing the plan and implementing the process for wolf reintroduction in the region.

School district focuses on early literacy program

BY NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

MEEKER I Meeker School District Superintendent Chris Selle told the school board three candidates for Meeker Elementary School principal were interviewed last week. Selle described all three as "good, quality candidates," and said he has yet to make a decision because all three were so well qualified. If a variance request is approved, the cost for upgrades to the restroom facilities at Starbuck Stadium is expected to be just over \$700,000. If the state plumbing board doesn't approve the variance and requires compliance with state regulations, the cost will be higher. Selle also updated the board on improvements to the vestibule at Barone Middle School along with other safety-related updates and said the district is seeking a BEST grant to help with funding. Selle said the "budget is

better than it was a year ago," partly thanks to stimulus funds. "The big pieces are falling into place, but I don't have a lot of detail," Selle said. State assessment testing started this week at all three schools in the district. Some tests are mandatory for students, others are optional. Monday marked the first day in several months that the school made it through an entire day without any quarantines. "That's the first time since probably November," Selle said. While students in the 10-19 age range have made up the majority of cases locally, there have been no hospitalizations among students or staff, Selle said, and as far as he knows, no COVID long-haulers — still experiencing symptoms months after infection — in the school. The board agreed to continue compliance with mask orders through the end of the school year, both for students and as a board.

Dr. Bob Dorsett cautioned that with COVID variants in the community, it's not time to change protocols, as the variants appear to spread more easily and are causing more serious infections in younger people. There will be a school board election coming up this fall. Laurie Simonsen, David Smith, Bud Ridings and Bill deVergie will all be up for reelection. Selle discussed the implementation of an early literacy program grant with the board. Statistically, the district has a higher than expected number of students reading below grade level in the early grades. "That gap tends to widen over time," Selle said. "That [the early literacy program] is probably the most important thing our district is doing right now to set kids up for success." Looking ahead to graduation for the Class of 2021 on May 29, Selle said he expected it to be a "relatively normal" ceremony this year.

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RADINO & CHUCKWAGON
April 16 through 21, 2021

FRIDAY • APR. 16
BBQ chicken, potato bake casserole, broccoli, apples w/ cinnamon

MONDAY • APR. 19
Chicken enchilada w/ green sauce, tossed salad, cookies

TUESDAY • APR. 20
Chicken fried steak, boiled potatoes/gravy, green beans, apricots

WEDNESDAY • APR. 21
Meatloaf, baked potatoes w/ sour cream and butter, vegetable mix

White River Roundup continues to provide lunch to those aging adults 60+. Both Radino and Chuckwagon are providing home delivered meals M, Tu, W and F. To reserve a lunch, call and leave a message before 8 a.m. Radino: (970)878-9638
Chuckwagon: (970)878-5627

Most Forest Service roads not open for summer vehicles until May 21

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

RBC I The White River National Forest Blanco Ranger District reminds forest users that summer motorized and bicycle use does not begin in most areas of the forest until May 21 to protect roads and trails from damage and to protect wildlife from disturbance. "This year we have a lower snowpack and some county roads are being plowed earlier than in past years, which is giving people

earlier access to forest roads and trailheads that are closed until May 21," said Curtis Keetch. "It might be dry at the trailhead, but there will be saturated roadbeds and snow-covered portions of those roads that are not visible from the trailhead." Motorized and bicycle travel on wet, muddy roads can cause significant road damage and erosion. Some roads and trails are also seasonally closed to protect important elk calving and deer migration areas.

"We are asking folks to be patient. The summer vehicle use season will be here soon," Keetch said. All forest visitors are responsible for knowing when and where they can drive or ride. Paper Motor Vehicle Use Maps are free at the Blanco Ranger District. Motorized use as well as bicycle maps are also available online at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/whiteriver/landmanagement/?cid=stel-prdb5328670>

Know These Warning Signs

Did you know these signs mark high-pressure underground natural gas pipelines in your area?

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State law requires you to call **811** two business days prior to doing any excavation. A Dominion Energy representative will come locate and mark existing underground pipelines for you at no charge.

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811
what's below. Call 811 before you dig.

Know How to Recognize, Report Pipeline Hazards

These uncommon conditions may indicate a pipeline problem or emergency:

Hissing or blowing sound

Dirt being blown into the air

Fire at or near exposed piping

Fire apparently emanating from the ground

Water blowing into the air at a pond, creek or river

Bubbling action on outside water surface

Vegetation dead or brown

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878-5026
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Sports stories are posted in the HT as space allows in the following order: varsity stories, junior varsity stories, junior high stories, miscellaneous stories. Contact us at editor@ht1885.com with questions.

CHSAA restrictions are currently in place for high school sports.

Please wear a mask to school events.



The Meeker Cowboys took first in 2A play with a tough-fought game. The girls are undefeated this season.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Lady Cowboys climb to top of 2A

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

MEEKER I The slight pause in the schedule due to COVID didn't stop the Meeker Cowboy volleyball team from climbing to the top stop in 2A. After missing three games, the Cowboys made up two of them last weekend, which made for a four game, four city, 341 mile volleyball weekend.

"Four matches, in three days, in four different towns is tough," commented head coach Greg Cravens, "The girls got their fill of volleyball."

The weekend began in Meeker against Vail Mountain, the second top 10 team the Cowboys have come up against this year.

The first game after the county went to COVID level green, it was a packed gym, "It was almost like it is back to normal, an incredible game," said Cravens.

After a very slow start down two sets to zero, the Cowboys rallied, to win the game 3-2.

"Thursday was something special; the girls have faith in each other and they work very hard for each other," commented Cravens.

After losses by Wiggins to Merino, and the win over Vail Christian by Meeker, the Cowboys climbed Saturday to the number two spot in the combined poll.

The top eight teams in class 2A will host a three team bracket for regionals on May 1, the winner of that tournament will go to state at NORCO on May 10-11. Only eight teams will make that trip.

After the barn burner on Thursday the team began their 341 mile journey to Olathe, Hotchkiss and ending at Grand Valley, they won nine sets to zero against these three teams, allowed 160 points to their 225, and moved up the the number one spot in 2A.

"This weekend the girls were tired against Grand Valley only passing 1.46," commented Cravens, "that is a skill we need to continue to improve on. Our serving is good, we have 110 aces for the year."

Looking at the league, only Vail Christian and Meeker remain as undefeated teams, however Meeker is 7-0 and Vail Christian has only played five games. Vail Christian remains the only team Meeker has left to take on in the top 25. Whereas they still have Soroco, Vail Mountain and Meeker left in their schedule. If both teams remain undefeated until they meet, the winner of their matchup will decide the league and that game is scheduled for Saturday, April 24 in Meeker.

The Cowboys now look forward to a game Saturday in Hayden, and then the final of the make up games Tuesday at home against North Park. Varsity is scheduled to begin at 6 pm against North Park.

Compiled Stats for Vail Mtn., Olathe, Hotchkiss and Grand Valley Games

Player	Kills	Aces	Blocks	Digs
Nora Gianinetti	12		6	3
Sophia Goedert	1			17
Tatum Kennedy	1	11	5	13
Lea Knapp		3		63
Sarah Kracht	20	4	1	50
Emma Luce	92	24	6	85
Savvy Mendenhall	9	11		22
Aspen Merrifield	8	5		23

Panthers head to Hayden Friday

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I The junior varsity lady Panthers were 1-1 this weekend: dropping to West Grand 0-2 but coming together to beat Vail Mountain in three sets Saturday. They worked very hard as a team and were able to come out on top with their first win of the season. Coach Toyne stated that she is very proud of what the girls were able to accomplish this week.

The lady Panthers lost two tough matches. Rangely traveled to West Grand on Thursday, April 8. Rangely started off a little slow trying to get going dropping the first set. The Panthers came out in the second and third set determine to change the outcome, but the fourth set had a different idea, dropping the set to the Mustangs. The fifth and final set did not favor the Panthers as they dropped the last set to lose the match. Leading the offensive for the lady Panthers was Maya Mercado with 11 kills and Aspen Low adding six kills. Low and Kyrha Phelps led with four

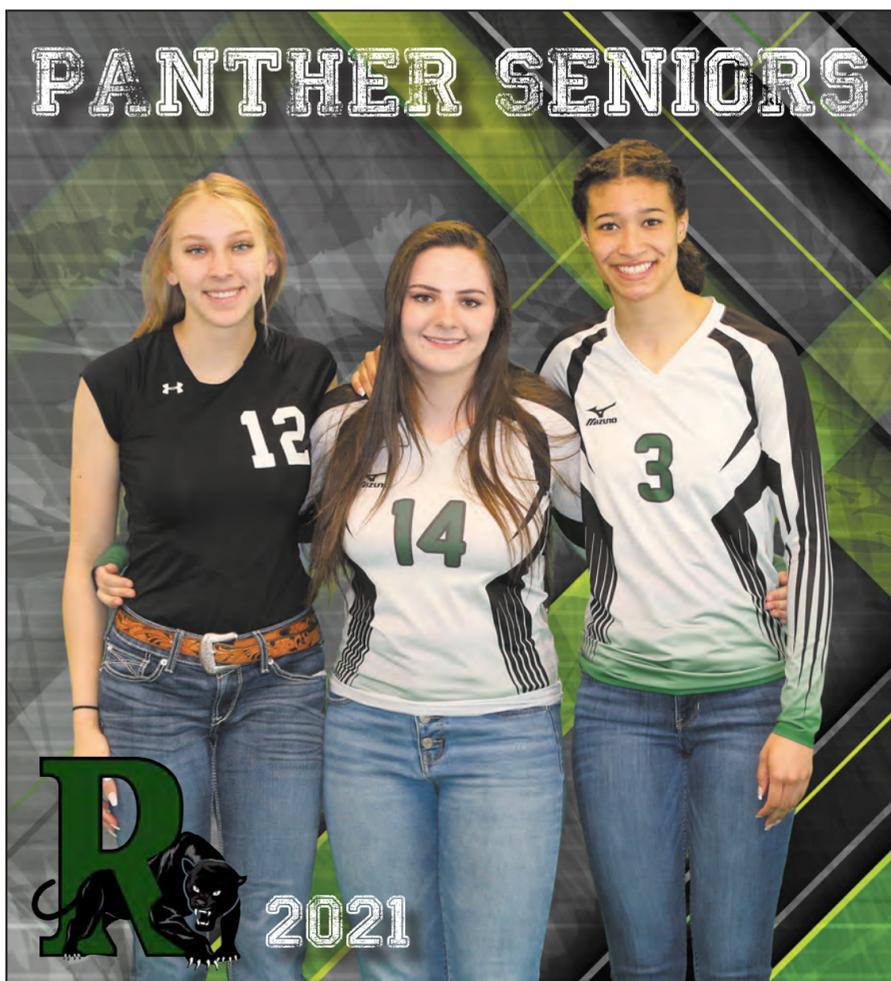
aces apiece. Defensively, Emma Smith led with 22 digs.

On Saturday, April 10, Rangely traveled to Vail Mountain. The Panthers played well to take the first set. Sets two, three and four, the Panthers struggled in terminating play. Mercado led with eight kills with Low adding four kills. Adelynn Halcomb led the team with five aces. Phelps led the defense with 12 digs and Ryan Mergleman with 10 digs. Coach Cox said even though the Panthers lost both matches, they are growing and getting better each match and she is proud of the work the girls are putting in.

Rangely will have a busy week traveling to Grand Valley on Tuesday, traveling to Hayden on Friday and hosting Hotchkiss on Saturday.

This year's Panther senior volleyball players are, from left, Janessa Mast, Crimsen Blankenship and Maya Mercado.

MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO



MEEKER VOLLEYBALL ROSTER

- #1 Savannah Mendenhall
- #2 Tatum Kennedy
- #3 Grace Roberts
- #4 Sophia Goedert
- #5 Sarah Kracht
- #6 Bianca Duerr
- #7 Ainsley Selle
- #8 Lea Knapp
- #9 Aspen Merrifield
- #10 Nora Gianinetti
- #13 Emma Luce



RANGELY VOLLEYBALL ROSTER

- #1 Emma Smith
- #2 Adelynn Halcomb
- #3 Maya Mercado
- #5 Angelina Peck
- #7 Kenzie Satterly
- #11 Aspen Low
- #13 Ryann Mergelman
- #14 Crimsen Blankenship
- #14 Kyrha Phelps



Paddleboarders urged to wear personal floatation devices

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I As stand-up paddleboards become more and more popular, Colorado Parks and Wildlife reminds paddlers to wear personal floatation devices (PFDs) when using this watercraft.

Over the last several years at Colorado's state parks, more and more people have been falling off their boards and some have drowned. In all those cases people were not wearing PFDs.

"So many people see paddleboards as low risk; but if you fall off your board into cold water you can get into trouble very quickly," said Kirstin Copeland, manager at Ridgway State Park.

On rivers or reservoirs, if a paddleboarder falls off there is no guarantee that the board will remain within reach. In rivers, the board can be pulled away by the current. In lakes, a board can be pushed away quickly by the wind.

The danger is amplified on reservoirs and ponds in the afternoons in Colorado when winds

pick-up or fast-moving storms stir up waves. Water temperature is also a factor. Even though the weather has been warm, the spring run-off is just starting and water in rivers and reservoirs is only about 50 degrees or lower. Cold water quickly impairs swimming ability and can cause hypothermia.

According to CPW regulations, on any watercraft the number of life jackets on board must match the number of passengers. Anyone 13 years or younger must wear a life jacket at all times. Every kind of craft is subject to the regulations, including powerboats, paddleboards, kayaks, canoes, sailboats and sailboards.

In the last two years at Ridgway reservoir, four adults who were not wearing PFDs had to be rescued by park rangers after failing off their boards. In addition, two youngsters who were wearing adult-sized life jackets also had to be rescued. The ill-fitting PFDs did not support them in the water properly. Children must be fitted with properly sized PFDs.



"Anything can happen at any time on the water. So we urge people to be cautious and consider their own safety and their loved one's safety while they're enjoying the water," Copeland said. "Please, wear your PFD."

For more information about safe boating, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/BoatingSafety.aspx>

Listen to CPW's PODCAST on boating safety by scanning the QR code with your smartphone camera or visiting: <https://art19.com/shows/colorado-outdoors/episodes/ec80b994-4eb8-4484-abea-b2b86a747c0b>.

Practice safe boarding and boating this summer. Wear a PFD!

Scan or click for CPW's Boating Safety tips:



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or



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Scan or click for CPW's Boating Safety podcast:

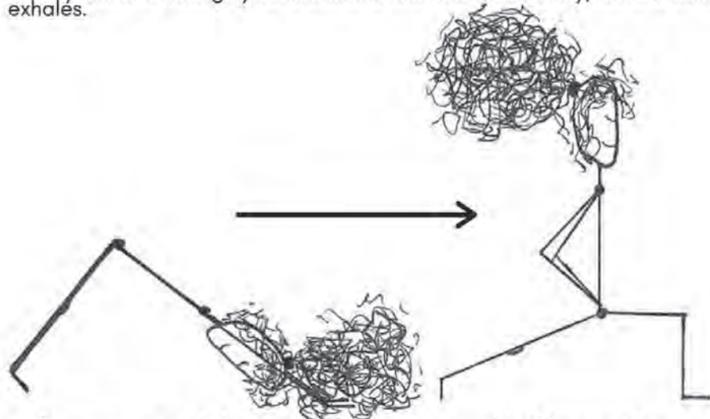
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1. Lengthen through the crown of your head, tucking your chin in just a smidgen to straighten out your cervical spine; stand, sit, or lay fall.
2. Pull your belly button up and then back towards your spine to engage your core and lift your pelvic floor.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



In this month's series we will flow from Down Dog into various other poses that will challenge your mobility and awaken your entire body. This week we will flow from Down Dog into High Lunge.

Begin by coming into your Down Dog: feet hips-width distance apart, heels reaching towards the floor, knees slightly bent, hips reach high and back, spine lengthens releasing your neck, shoulders are engaged down your back keeping them away from your ears, elbows slightly bent, fingers spread wide pressing into the hands.

From your Down Dog inhale to reach your right leg long behind you then exhale to step it forward and inhale to bring your torso upright, right knee bending and hands coming to your hips. This is High Lunge, work to keep your hips even by squeezing your thighs towards midline.

Option to pulse the back knee down and up. **Repeat on other side.**

Let's talk about logical fallacies—gaps in logic that invalidate an argument or opinion.

17 Begging the question

When someone argues themselves in circles by using an unproven conclusion as proof of truth. This is a bit of a difficult one to define, so we're including an example from the phenomenal website yourfallacy.is

Example: "The word of Zorbo the Great is flawless and Perfect. We know this because it says so in The Great and Infallible Book of Zorbo's Best and Most Truest Things that are Definitely True and Should Not Ever Be Questioned."

Happy fallacy-finding!



Rio Blanco Herald Times Correction Policy

While we strive for accuracy in all our reporting, it is an inescapable fact that mistakes will occur. When a mistake is brought to our attention, it will be addressed in one of three ways, depending on the nature of the error.

Clarification: We didn't say anything untrue, but we didn't state things clearly enough to avoid confusion or new information has come to light.

Correction: We made a factual error. Here's what we should have said.

Retraction: The story is wrong in its entirety.

Corrections are clearly labeled as such, and are published as soon as possible following notification of an error.

To submit a correction, call 970-878-4017 or email editor@ht1885.com.

Rangely School Lunch Menu: April 19 through 29, 2021

Monday, Apr. 19: Chicken and Noodles, Carrots, Salad\Fruit, Milk\Water

Tuesday, Apr. 20: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Corn, Salad\Fruit, Milk\Water

Wednesday, Apr. 21: Pepperoni Pizza, Broccoli, Salad\Fruit, Milk\Water

Thursday, Apr. 22: Pancakes, Sausage, Potato Triangle, Berry Yogurt, Salad, Milk\Water

Monday, Apr. 26: Chili, Peas, Cinnamon Sticky Bun, Salad\Fruit, Milk\Water

Tuesday, Apr. 27: Mac and Cheese, Chicken Tenders, Steamed Carrots, Salad\Fruit, Milk\Water

Wednesday, Apr. 28: Tater Tot Casserole, Corn, Salad\Fruit, Milk\Water

Thursday, Apr. 29: Ham Sliders, Pasta Salad, Jell-O Apples, Salad, Milk\Water

Menu subject to change

LIFEGUARD OF THE MONTH ...



WRBM COURTESY PHOTO

Congratulations to our March lifeguard of the month, Logan Kenneally. Kenneally moved to Rangely a few years ago from New York for the CNCC flight program. Rangely was a bit of a culture shock for him but he loves this place and is so happy to be working at the Recreation Center. He has made some great friends and enjoys the amazing people he gets to meet every day. Kenneally is a hard worker who always has a smile on his face, a positive attitude, and makes everyone feel welcome at the pool.

THEME: FICTIONAL MONSTERS

- ACROSS**
1. "Turkey" dance
5. X minus III
8. Accounting acronym

11. Angel's glow
12. Like list of chores
13. Inside info
15. "National Velvet" author
Bagnold

16. Heavy Metal band Quiet _____
17. *Worn by monster hunters and dragonslayers
18. *Sea monster with atomic breath
20. Brooms and cauldrons to a witch, e.g.
21. Subject of biographies, pl.
22. _____ of Aquarius
23. Saudi's southern neighbor
26. Ceremonial flight
30. "I" problem
31. Sweet-talk
34. Marine eagle
35. The Revenge of the _____, 1984
37. _____ you sure?
38. Desires
39. Russia's Romanov, e.g.
40. Comfy pants
42. Preceding month
43. Google Maps predecessor, pl.
45. Blackbird-like birds
47. Crow sound
48. Group of professionals
50. Like a bow string
52. *Witch of Russian fairytales
55. _____ con carne
56. G in 1000 g., e.g.
57. Loose hood
59. Was rebroadcasted
60. Prospector's mother?
61. Bassoon cousin
62. Nod up and down
63. *He played Dracula and Count Dooku
64. *Like Sendak's Things

CROSSWORD

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62					63			64		

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

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

DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald
125 years ago

- The mesa ranchmen started in on a vigorous campaign against the prairie dogs yesterday.
- N.H. Conley, photographer, pitched his tent here last Saturday afternoon and is now engaged in focusing his camera on all sorts of "mugs," and things animate and inanimate.
- We don't feel disposed to blow about the weather on this occasion — it did that for itself during the week and furnished us with a combination of high winds, Utah dust, March blizzard, April shower, hail, snow, sunshine, etc., etc.

The Meeker Herald
100 years ago

- What will a railroad mean to Meeker? Some of us have figured it all out and know Others have neglected doing so because they rest satisfied with their never increasing or never decreasing all.
- There are 10 in the graduating class. Commencement will come on Friday evening, May 20th and the class will give their own exercises, omitting the public address.
- M. Villa of Strawberry was a business visitor to town early part of the week.

The Meeker Herald
50 years ago

- The third act "Of Mice and Men" by J. Steinbeck has been chosen by Meeker High School students as their one act play to be presented in the festival in Steamboat Springs.
- An active investigation is continuing into the killing of a 16-year-old Brownsville, Texas, youth by Patroman E.W. Long Jr., of Rangely, last Tuesday afternoon. According to the Rangely Times, Rangely's Chief of Police was admitted to the hospital with multiple stab wounds and

a Brownsville, Texas, man was dead Tuesday afternoon.

The Meeker Herald
25 years ago

- The fire department took delivery this week on a special fire truck designed to combat wildland fires. The vehicle, a specially-modified 2-½ ton military truck, can shoot fire suppressing foam several hundred feet, and can go just about anywhere. The state forest service owns the truck but it will be permanently stationed in Meeker. Meeker got the truck because of the 80-plus wildland fires here in 1994.
- Bill Dunham was sworn in April 16 as Meeker's mayor, Steve Loshbaugh was elected mayor pro tempore, and Jeanne Nadon and Vernon Rholl took their places on the Meeker Town Council.

Rangely Times
50 years ago

- Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ramey have purchased a trailer court and two houses on East Main Street from Dr. John Roberts, effective April 1. Former residents, the Rameys recently moved to Rangely from Iowa Falls, Iowa. They plan to expand the size of the court and otherwise remodel it and the houses.
- When you tighten your belt it's a recession, when you don't have a belt to tighten it's a depression, when you don't have any pants to hold up it's a panic.

Rangely Times
25 years ago

- In a special meeting of the Rangely Development Corporation on April 15, the board members discussed time-table issues for expanding White Water Spas into Rangely.
- Prom Queen Heather Stanley and King Heath Kenney shared the first dance of the evening after being crowned on Saturday, April 13.

**When you tighten your belt, it's a recession.
When you don't have a belt to tighten, it's a depression.
When you don't have any pants to hold up, it's a panic.**

~ The Rangely Times, 50 years ago

SPECIAL OFFER FOR RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES READERS

What's On TV & Where To Find It!

INSIDE: 5 QUESTIONS WITH COYOTE PETERSON

weekly tv March 20th - April 6th, 2020

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LITTLE PEOPLE: BIG WORLD TUESDAY 11P
THE BIGGEST LOSER TUESDAY 10A-11A
THE SECRET OF SKINWALKER RANCH TUESDAY 11P
HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER THURSDAY 10P
HAWAII FIVE-O FRIDAY 10P

NEW COMEDY SERIES BROKE THURSDAY 10P

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What does your school, town or...

...city do to recycle items? How do you help?

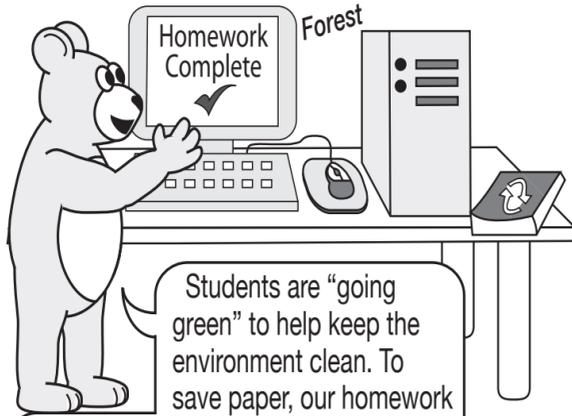


Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2021 V17-15

Kids: color stuff in!



Students are "going green" to help keep the environment clean. To save paper, our homework assignments now come in daily emails. Everyone has learned what items can be recycled, and they put these into bins.

Read my clues to fill in my puzzle with things kids can do to help:

- use _____, sandwich boxes, thermoses and reusable water/sports bottles
- sort bottles and cans into bins for _____
- turn off all _____ and electronics when not using
- use both sides of _____ (may make into notepads)
- _____ school uniforms, gym clothes for others to use
- read and do _____ on computers
- create a _____ where students can pin up and share their ideas for recycling
- _____, bike, take a bus or carpool with others
- have a swap at school to _____ things that you are done with for "new" stuff
- use items for a new or _____ purpose - old school clothes cut for art projects, a box made into a game you invent (some call this "repurposing")

Earth Day

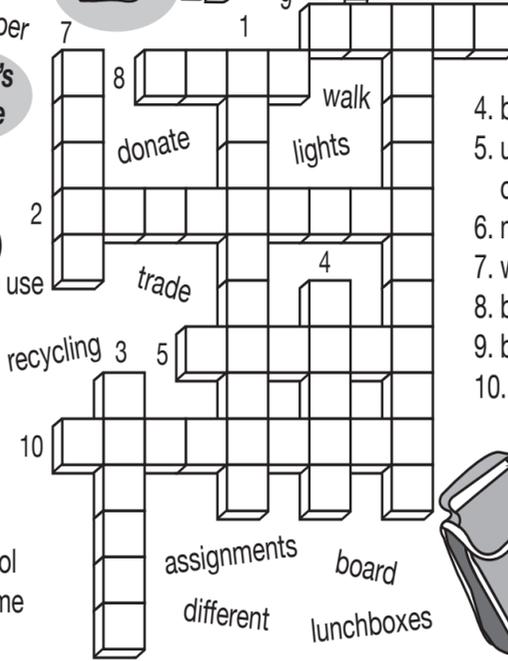
Keeping it Green!

My puzzle is about how schools are helping to conserve. Some are built from recycled materials, and have features to save energy, such as motion-activated lights and faucets.

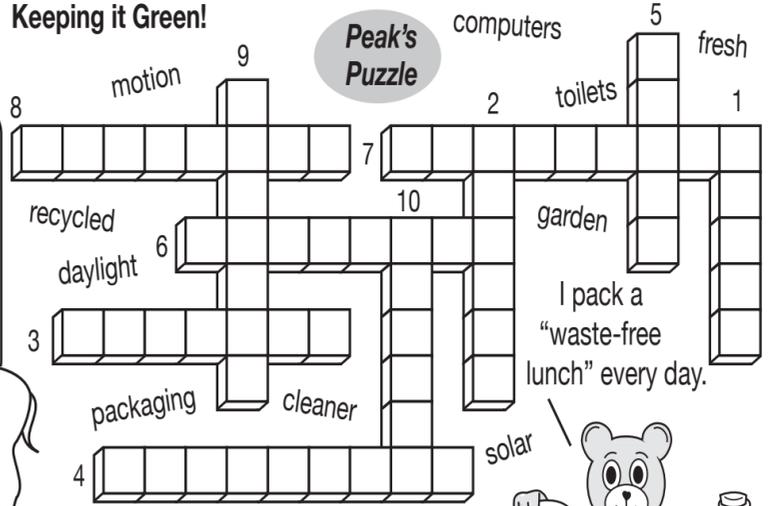
Fill in my puzzle!



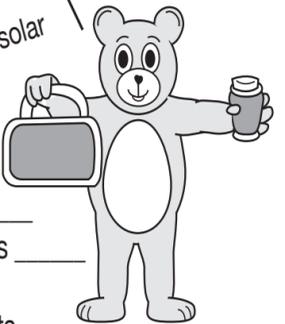
Forest's Puzzle



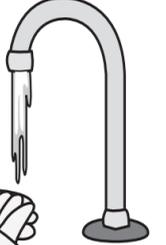
Peak's Puzzle



- _____ panel rooftops
- _____ -activated faucets
- waterless or low-flow _____
- buy from companies that use less _____
- use food service company that offers _____ vegetables and fruits
- more _____ in classrooms gives an "energy" boost
- wireless tablet _____ and energy saving monitors
- buying _____ paper
- better airflow and filters to keep air _____
- rooftop _____ to keep heat in (or out), and for people to study life cycle of plants



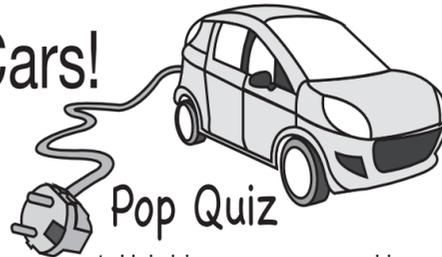
automatic faucet



Uh-oh...I finished my report on the newest cars and power sources - but not the answer key to my fun Pop Quiz! Read my report, then Help me by **circling "T" for true and "F" for false.**

Cool Hybrid & Electric Cars!

London has started using electric double-decker buses.

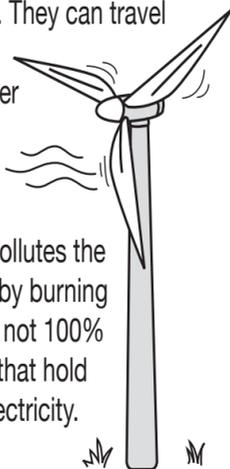


What do you know about hybrid cars? These very cool cars are powered by both gas *and* electricity. When you are driving one fast on a highway its gasoline engine is working. This makes you move and also charges the car's battery. Then, when you drive around town at lower speeds, the car is able to run on electricity. Hybrid cars do not need to be plugged in. They can travel 50 miles or more per gallon of gas - twice what many gas-only cars can.

Companies are also coming out with cars that use electric motors to power *everything*. They store electricity in batteries, which are then recharged by the owner plugging the car in at home. We are starting to build stations in areas that will allow drivers to recharge their cars while traveling too.

Electric cars are great because nothing comes out of their tailpipes that pollutes the air! Some people argue that the electricity these cars use may be generated by burning coal or natural gas instead of by water power or wind turbines, making them not 100% environmentally friendly. But, people are working on ways to make batteries that hold more electricity for longer driving and on technology to produce "cleaner" electricity.

Maybe **you** will work on some of these designs someday!



Pop Quiz

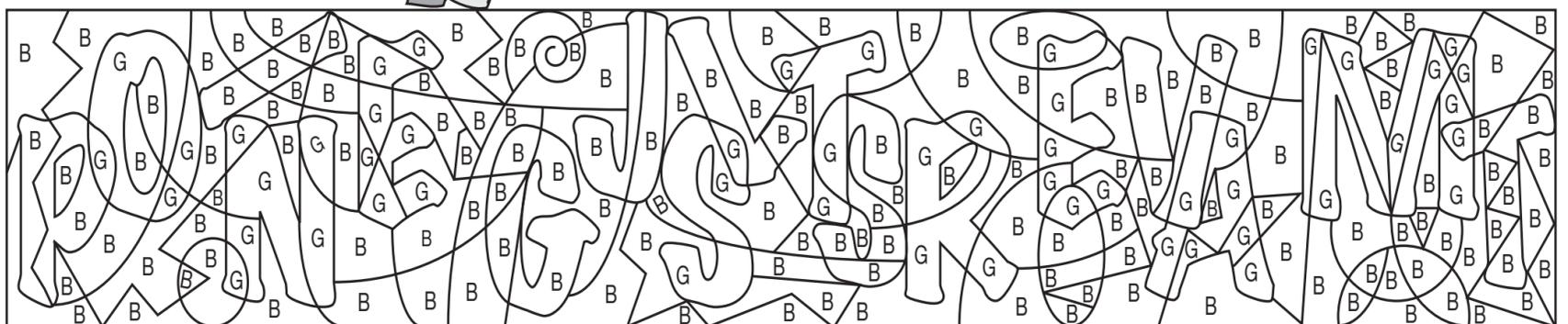
- Hybrid cars are powered by gasoline and electricity. T F
- The gas engine takes power from the battery. T F
- They get fewer miles per gallon than a gas-only car. T F
- Electric cars use electricity to power everything. T F
- Owners can plug these cars in at home. T F
- Lots of pollution is added to the air from electric cars. T F
- People are hoping to have recharging stations built in parking lots of apartments, stores and train stations. T F
- Wind-, water- and solar-generated electricity will allow for less pollution in the air. T F

An Easier Way to Recycle!

Putting most recyclables together is easier. This kind of recycling is called **single** or...

Many towns are switching to this "mixed" recycling. It is a newer way to recycle paper, glass, cardboard and plastic. Using this method, we no longer separate and sort all of our recyclable items. Recycling plants are able to separate these items and recycle them into new materials.

G = Green
B = Blue



• PUBLIC MEETINGS •

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO
RIO BLANCO COUNTY ANNEX BUILDING
17497 HWY 64
RANGELY, COLORADO 81648
Tentative Agenda April 20, 2021
1. 11:00 a.m. Call to order:
A. Pledge of Allegiance
B. Changes to April 20, 2021 Agend
C. Move to approve the April 20, 2021 Agenda including any changes.
2. CONSENT AGENDA for April 20, 2021
A. Move to approve the below listed items of the Consent Agenda.
B. Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2021
3. BUSINESS
A. Move to approve/deny a permission letter to the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Town of Meeker, Colorado to allow the Meeker Arts & Cultural Council to

Provide alcohol for the following dates, times and events:
June 11, 2021, from 4:30 -9:30 PM – Beer Garden for ERBM Meekerpalooza #1
June 18, 2021, from 4:30 -9:30 PM – Beer Garden for ERBM Meekerpalooza #2
July 9, 2021, from 4:30 -9:30 PM – Beer Garden for ERBM Meekerpalooza #3
July 23, 2021, from 4:30 -9:30 PM – Beer Garden for ERBM Meekerpalooza #4
B. Move to approve/deny the CARES Act Airport Grant Close-Out Report for the Rangely Airport and Meeker Coulter Field Airport, Grant # 3-08-0047-015-2020, Grant Amount \$40,000.00 (Chairman signs)
C. Move to approve/deny a reconsideration of the letter authorized on March 16, 2021, to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, opposing fee title land acquisition of the Crystal Creek Ranch, and authorize staff to draft the letter accordingly if

necessary.
D. Move to approve/deny a letter supporting the White River Aspen Management Project.
Adjourn
The agenda is provided for informational purposes only; all times are approximate. Agenda items will normally be considered in the order they appear on the agenda. However, the Board may alter the Agenda, take breaks during the meeting, work through the noon hour and even continue an item for a future meeting date. The Board, while in session, may consider other items that are brought before it. Scheduled items may be continued if the Board is unable to complete the Agenda as scheduled.
The next regular Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 27, 2021 in the Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse, 555 Main St., 3rd Floor Hearing Room, Meeker, CO. Please check the County's website for information at <http://tbc.us/186/Board-of-County-Commissioners>. If you need special accommodations please call 970-878-9431 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made.
Published: April 15, 2021
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Approval of the Agenda
Approval of the Previous Minutes
Approval of Monthly Disbursements
Staff Updates
Public Participation
This is an opportunity for Citizens to bring comments and questions to the Board of Trustees not being addressed in the Regular Meeting Agenda. In consideration of other regularly scheduled agenda items, comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less. Citizens are asked to approach the podium state their name and address for the record.
New Business:
Consideration of accepting a Fermented Malt Beverage Manufacturer's License (Brewery), a Wholesale Beer License and a Liquor Sales Room Application by Smoking River Brewing Company LLC and scheduling a public hearing.

Board authorization for the Mayor and Town Administrator to execute a Construction Agreement between the Town of Meeker and Rocky Mountain Asphalt Schreiner Inc. for the 2021 crack sealing project.
Consideration of Pioneers Medical Center's request for waiving building permit fees for their Negative Pressure Room project.
Consideration of RBC Fair Board's request of sponsorship for the 2021 Fair.
Consideration of approving a letter of commitment allowing participation in the Regional Resiliency and Recovery Roadmap process.
Mayor's Remarks
Town Manager's Report
Other Board Business
Adjournment
Published: April 15, 2021
Rio Blanco Herald Times

us/186/Board-of-County-Commissioners. If you need special accommodations please call 970-878-9431 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made.
Published: April 15, 2021
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TOWN OF MEEKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021
7:00 P.M. Board Meeting
Town Hall
345 Market Street, Meeker, CO
Due to COVID-19 precautions, the public is invited to attend by calling 970-878-8091.
Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

TOWN OF MEEKER

2021 Drinking Water Quality Report

For Calendar Year 2020

MEEKER TOWN OF 2021 Drinking Water Quality Report Covering Data for Calendar Year 2020

Public Water System ID: CO0152505

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact Lisa Cook at 970-878-5344 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality.

General Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wqcd.compliance.com/ccr. The report is located under "Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports". Search the table using 152505, MEEKER TOWN OF, or by contacting Lisa Cook at 970-878-5344. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that could occur. It does not mean that the contamination has or will occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

Sources (Water Type – Source Type)	Potential Source(s) of Contamination
WELL NO 1 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 2 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 3 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 4 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 5 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 6 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 7 (Groundwater-Well) WELL NO 8 (Groundwater-Well)	Row Crops, Pasture / Hay, Deciduous Forest, Evergreen Forest, Road Miles

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** – A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** – A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants

MEEKER TOWN OF routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System						
TT Requirement: At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm OR						
If sample size is less than 40 no more than 1 sample is below 0.2 ppm						
Typical Sources: Water additive used to control microbes						
Disinfectant Name	Time Period	Results	Number of Samples Below Level	Sample Size	TT Violation	MRDL
Chlorine	December, 2020	Lowest period percentage of samples meeting TT requirement: 100%	0	2	No	4.0 ppm

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System								
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	09/24/2020 to 09/24/2020	0.95	10	ppm	1.3	1	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	09/24/2020 to 09/24/2020	4.3	10	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System									
Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	2020	4.5	4.5 to 4.5	1	ppb	60	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomet hanes (TTHM)	2020	6.4	6.4 to 6.4	1	ppb	80	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Combined Radium	2018	1.1	1.1 to 1.1	1	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium	2018	0.75	0.75 to 0.75	1	ppb	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Barium	2017	0.02	0.02 to 0.02	1	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	2020	0.12	0.12 to 0.12	1	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants**						
**Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.						
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2017	7.1	7.1 to 7.1	1	ppm	N/A

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

Non-Health-Based Violations		
These violations do not usually mean that there was a problem with the water quality. If there had been, we would have notified you immediately. We missed collecting a sample (water quality is unknown), we reported the sample result after the due date, or we did not complete a report/notice by the required date.		
Name	Description	Time Period
TOTAL COLIFORM	FAILURE TO MONITOR AND/OR REPORT	07/01/2020 - 07/31/2020
CHLORINE	FAILURE TO MONITOR AND/OR REPORT	07/01/2020 - 07/31/2020
CHLORINE	FAILURE TO MONITOR AND/OR REPORT	07/01/2020 - 09/30/2020
CHLORINE	EQUIPMENT VERIFICATION OR CALIBRATION - R531	07/02/2020 - Open
Additional Violation Information		
Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.		
Describe the steps taken to resolve the violation(s), and the anticipated resolution date: These violations were resolved 8/3/20 the samples were not taken due to lead operator error. The violations were corrected by taking the next month samples and has not occurred since. This will satisfy the notification part of the violation.		



CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

HELP WANTED

Part time laundry person and full time front desk. Stop by White River Inn for an application.

We are seeking a Heavy Equipment Operator to become a part of our team! You will be primarily tasked with operating a loader. \$ Hourly Rate DOE.
Responsibilities:
- Safely operate industrial loaders, excavators, dozers etc.
- Load trucks and feed plants
- Inspect equipment before and after use
- Communicate need for maintenance or repair
- Adhere to safety policies and procedures
Qualifications:
- Previous experience in a manufacturing, truck driving, or other related fields
- Strong work ethic
- Ability to handle physical workload
Ary Corporation is an EEO employer
To apply for this position please call (719)275-3264

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lifeguards
- \$12.32 - \$15.60/hr
- part-time, non-benefited
- work up to 24 hours/wk

Custodian
- \$13.20 - \$18.54/hr
- part-time, leave-benefited
- work up to 30 hours/wk

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

Laborer
Position Details:
- Very physical job
- It's NOT required – but construction/landscaping/farming/ranching experience nice to have
- Working outside most of the time – rain/snow/shine
- Attend and participate in daily safety meetings
- Eventually be trained on how to operate equipment – i.e. skid steer, backhoe, excavator – can become a crew lead (usually takes at least a year)
Ideal candidate:
- Someone with a positive attitude that is willing to work hard, and show desire to learn and be a valuable member of the team
Responsibilities:
- Use hand tools and power tools
- Labor around the plant and throughout the pit
- Inspect equipment before and after use
- Communicate need for maintenance or repair
- Adhere to safety policies and procedures
Qualifications:
- Strong work ethic
- Ability to handle physical workload
- Good attitude
- Must have reliable transportation and current Driver's License
- Must pass a pre-employment and random drug screens
Ary Corporation is an EEO employer
To apply for this position please call (719)275-3264

Help Wanted:
O! Crows Beer and Beverage.
Contact Joe 970-220-2029.

HELP WANTED:

The W.R.B.M. Recreation & Park District is taking applications for a part-time (up to 30 hrs per week) Cashier for the Rec Center. Pay depends on qualifications. Possible benefit package to be evaluated later. Duties include and are not limited to; provide high quality customer service, point of sale/cash handling, answer phone and customer accounts and membership inquiries. Need to be available to work a variety of shifts. Must be 18 or older. Pick up your application and job description at the Rec Center, 611 S. Stanolind Avenue, Rangely, CO. Applications/resumes accepted until April 18. EOE

MSG Ready Mix

• CDL A & B DRIVERS •
Competitive pay, weekly paycheck, paid holidays, health insurance and retirement savings program available.
Email resume to katie@msgreadymix.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Delivery of meals for senior meals Meeker and Rangely
11:00 – 1:30 M, T, W, F
Contact White River Roundup, 878-9652



PIONEERS MEDICAL CENTER

With the growth of Pioneers Medical Center and Colorado Advanced Orthopedics Sports Medicine & Spine, we are excited to fill several positions. To see the full list of open positions, visit our website or scan the code below.

Complete an application online by scanning the code or by navigating to pioneershospital.org

VISIONARY BROADBAND

Job Summary:
Come join our rapidly-growing retail business. We are looking for an accomplished, up-beat and friendly individual to join our team as a Customer Service Representative in our Meeker, CO office. The successful candidate for this role will have a strong command of the company's customer service policies, and be well-trained in product knowledge that can be critical for offering quick and accurate assistance to customers. We need an enthusiastic individual who can listen to customer service issues and then offer a unique and innovative solution to each problem.

Responsibilities and Duties:
Be the leading face of the Company representing Visionary Broadband in a professional manner, providing excellent customer service to all new and existing customers. Answer incoming customer calls regarding new service, products, billing issues, service questions and general client concerns. Responsible for maintaining a high level of professionalism with clients and working to establish a positive rapport with every caller. Update customer information in the customer service database during and after each call. Work with the management team to stay updated on product knowledge and be informed of any changes in company policies.

Qualifications and Skills:
High school diploma/GED required (Associate degree in a business-related field preferred). Ability to remain professional and courteous with customers at all times. Must have computer experience and basic knowledge of Microsoft Office products and Google Documents. Excellent verbal and written communications skills.

Please send a resume to hr@visionarybroadband.com.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS Volunteer Opportunities

The following Boards have positions available. If you are interested in serving on one or more of the following Boards, please complete an [Application for Board or Commission](#) and return to: HR, PO Box 1, Meeker, CO 81641 or hr@rbc.us, 970-878-9570. The Application can be found at the rbc.us website under Elected Offices & Boards.

- Columbine Park Board
- Community Services Block Grant Board (Min. requirements)
- Extension Advisory Board
- Health Board
- Historic Preservation Board
- Meeker Library Board
- Planning Commission
- Weed Management

Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network

To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network at 720-274-7174.

AT&T TV	HEARING AIDS!!!
<p>AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All your Favorite Screens CHOICE Package, \$64.99/mo Plus Taxes for 12 months. Premium Channels at No Charge for One Year! Anytime. Anywhere!! Some restrictions apply, w/24-mo agmt TV price higher in 2nd year. Regional sports Fee up to \$8.49/mo is extra & applies</p> <p>CALL: IVS 1-888-495-0214</p>	<p>Buy One/get one FREE!!! Nearly invisible, fully rechargeable IN-EAR NANO hearing aids priced thousands less than competitors! 45-day trial!!! CALL: 1-866-522-0708</p>

COLORADO PRESS NETWORK
To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or email Colorado Press Association Network at rtoledo@colopress.net

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Case Aide, part-time
- Family Engagement Facilitator
- Public Health Nurse
- Relief Control Room Operator
- Relief Radino Driver, Rng
- Temp. Road & Bridge Laborer, Mkr

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

**Estate Auction Saturday April 24th
10:00 AM 66 Ranney Street
Craig, Colorado**

Modern household items of all kinds, pots-pans-dishes, pictures, wheel chair, TV, rocks, books, bedding, wood carvings, x-mas, upright freezer, 2 guns, saddles and tack, canning items, ect. Antiques; Chairs, stamps, glassware, fiesta ware, iron bed, waterfall bedroom set, fancywork, accordion, banjo, Hopalong Cassidy Kids Rocker, pocket watches, toys, postcards, fish pole and reels, cream cans, seeder, cowbells, crockett spurs, chapps, traps, hand and power tools. Treasures will be found as we set up. Estate of Veda Wyman. For more info, Call Steve Claypoole CP Auction Services 970-260-5577. Must see web www.cpauction.com "call us about a sale for you"

Moving Auction

**Sat. April 24th 1:30 P.M. Watch for signs.
5MI S.E. of Meeker Off CR 4 on CR 41.**
64 Chevy Pickup 4x4 - front axle broke, 1952 Farmall Tractor Model 230 - tires bad, 2 good saddles, wood and steel posts, newer king size bed, (3) heavy duty bunk beds w/ new mattresses, other bedroom items, newer couch - ends recline, 2 other chairs, roll top desk, cast iron patio table w/ (4) chairs, round oak table w/ (4) chairs, camel back trunk, lots of dishes - pots - pans - table lamps, 3 sewing machines, house plants - too much misc to list, 30 cal pistol, 45 cal 5 shot pistol, both ball and cap.
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Must be paid day of sale

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Storage Unit Sale
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~ Someone on the internet

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- 223 8th St. SOLD
- 1751 Bright Water Ln. SOLD
- TBD Rd. 8: 12.69 unencumbered acres, beautiful and unique location \$480,000
- NEW 641 4th St.: 3+BD/3BA, newly renovated, garage & shop area. . . \$320,000
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- NEW 235 Water St. PENDING
- 109 Market St.: Bustling location, vacant corner lot. REDUCED \$167,000
- Ridge Estates: 17 2-5 acre lots, next to golf course. Prices \$45,000 - \$160,000
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