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for the recall,
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RIO BLANCO Herald Times

Serving the Citizens of Rio Blanco County Since 1885 ♦ Vol. 137, No. 38 ♦ April 28, 2022 ♦ ht1885.com ♦ \$1⁰⁰

BUCKS FOR BOOKS ...



Two months ago local resident Carissa Smith heard friends discuss how disappointing it was for young students to not be able to afford to buy books at the Book Fair held at the Meeker Elementary School. She took it upon herself to figure out a way to earn money. In addition to a donation jar located at Chippers, Smith contacted the Meeker Lions Club and made a personal presentation asking for a donation. This particular subject is one of the many Lions Club International interests worldwide. The Meeker Lions Club decided to make a donation of \$1,250 to the school for use in assisting needy students. There may also be additional funding in the future depending on the outcome of this event. The Book Fair was held on April 21 and local Meeker Lions Club members were on hand to read to students.

(Top) Meeker Elementary Principal Andi Murphy, Meeker Elementary Librarian Amber Garcia, Smith, and Lions Club President Brett Dearman. This was the presentation of the check for \$1,250 conducted in the school library.

(Bottom) Meeker Lion Mike Hoke reading to elementary students (with parents observing) during the Book Fair Thursday evening.

Hall celebrates 90th b-day

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

RANGELY | As the world continues to move ever more rapidly, it is grounding to take the time to reflect on the wisdom and experience of someone who has overcome challenging times with grace and humor. Norman Hall Sr., reminded me of this as he reflected on his journey starting with his birth on April 30, 1932, in Torrance, California. He and his mother relocated to Indiana in his first year where they lived until he left for the Navy in 1949 at the age of 17. He tells the story of how he had the choice of reform school or serving his country with a chuckle, but humbly remembers the second chance opportunity offered to him. His service took him to Japan, Alaska and the Mediterranean Sea while helping him gain perspective as a young man in the world during the 1950s as the world was beginning to rapidly develop and increase in production. Hall served in the Navy until 1954 and cites his favorite place as Venice, Italy because he enjoyed its engineering style as a sinking city.

In 1957, when he completed his service, he found a fulfilling purpose in family life. He married his precious wife Mary, which he still affectionately calls her even after her passing 24 years ago. Together they began their beautiful family of five children including three girls, a son, and an adopted daughter. The family now spans more than five generations and includes 60 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He recalled many precious memories including how his son, Norman Jr., surpassed him as a master mechanic while still in high school when they owned a small engine shop in Rangely. Norman shared a cherished memory of his daughter Brenda at a year old on the deck of a Navy ship being doted upon by fellow seamen while grinning ear to ear. He thanks Brenda for her dedication to helping him remain independent and strong. One of



COURTESY PHOTO

There will be an open house to celebrate Norman's birthday Saturday, April 30 from 2-4 p.m. at the Assembly of God, 204 E. Rio Blanco Ave., Rangely.

Norman's favorite things is when the grandchildren seek his guidance in their lives, which happens frequently as the generations look up to him as a source of wisdom. Love has grown and been passed down from generation to generation. Norman has remained engaged in the community as he raised his family with Mary and since recovering from her passing. He lives vivaciously and puts his heart's energy into all that he does.

In Indiana, he worked for a furniture store that hosted a TV show called "The Houston Hollis Show." He was the announcer and introduced each episode and the guests. Norman remembers taking classes to improve his English and dictation to be the best he could be at his job. His career brought him to Craig to run a furniture store. Norman and Mary moved to Colorado in the 1960s as Rangely began to experience a major boom. Hall has worked in furniture stores between Craig, Rangely and even Meeker when he took over a store there for a year when the owner was drafted. Hall worked in law enforcement, graduating from the

police academy in Rangely when CNCC was called Rangely College and serving as the security supervisor there in charge of training interns. Serving Rio Blanco County as a sheriff's deputy was one of the highlights of his career, he says, which he did for more than 30 years. Norman has held many successful sales jobs, as well, selling Rexair Rainbow vacuums, insurance, ATVs, and snowmobiles, and he even served as a judge in Colorado. He has been an employee of Moon Lake Electrical Association and even worked in the oilfield for a day.

As he approaches his 90th birthday on Saturday, he participates in the community part-time at the Rangely Automotive Museum. Norman shared that the museum has five vehicles under restoration at this time that they hope to have ready to showcase at the Memorial Day season opening. Norman shares his faith through volunteering to teach the Book of Psalms at his local church, the Living Water Assembly.

His advice to up-and-coming generations is to "stay busy" and always strive to keep moving forward. He has seen many tumultuous and prosperous times over the decades. As a witness to current events, he hopes that the country will find a way to "get back to the basics" as the way forward. Norman expressed deep gratitude for his family and cherishes each one of them. He is hard-working, dynamic, and certainly lives "way outside of ordinary."

There will be an open house to celebrate Norman's birthday on Saturday, April 30 from 2-4 p.m. at the Assembly of God church located at 204 E. Rio Blanco Ave. All are welcome to attend to share their love for Norman and his family.



COURTESY PHOTO

Norman and his wife Mary. Hall is a Navy veteran who still finds time to be involved in the community part time at the Rangely Automotive Museum.

INSIDE

- ♦ Republicans choose O'Hearon to replace Rector PAGE 2A
- ♦ News Notes PAGE 3A
- ♦ Opinion: Columns and Letters to the Editor PAGES 4A-5A
- ♦ Town of Meeker PAGE 7A
- ♦ Hospital Candidate Q&A PAGE 8A
- ♦ ERBM Candidate Q&A PAGE 10A

**CRITICAL THINKING
ADVISORY
SKILLS REQUIRED**

Saturday: 60s/30s

Sunday: 60s/30s

PICK-UP DAY
9am-4pm
Rio Blanco County Fairgrounds

MEEKER MUSTANG MAKEOVER
CELEBRATING THE COLORADO WILD HORSE
APRIL 30TH, 2022

STEVE MANTLE CLINICS

Starting a Yearling: 9:30am-11:30am

Starting a Three Year Old: 1:30pm-3:30pm

Clinics are FREE to trainers and \$10 for the public.

COUNTY BEAT

By **LUCAS TURNER**
lucas@ht1885.com

Rio Blanco County Commissioners heard updates from multiple departments this week including the Clerk and Recorder, Treasurer and Assessor.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

RBC Clerk and Recorder Boots Campbell said her department was collecting ballots for the recall election and preparing for upcoming primaries. 617 ballots had been turned in by Tuesday morning. Voting centers are open in both Rangely and Meeker through May 10. Campbell said preliminary/unofficial results will be released that evening.

Following the resignation of Jeff Rector from the board of commissioners, the county Republican party's vacancy committee chose Jennifer O'Hearon as a temporary replacement to serve until January when a new commissioner is sworn in. Campbell said due to the

timing of the resignation, the seat has opened up to a non-partisan race, which means the Democratic party will be able to designate someone for the primary ballot in June.

Assessor Renae Nielson cited both increases and decreases in assessed value throughout the county, noting a large decrease in the Weber Sand Unit, formerly owned by Chevron. Despite this Nielson noted an increase in value on production of gas. She also pointed out how recent legislative changes were still causing problems with her office, and said additional proposed legislation will add more workload.

Treasurer Rhonna Waldref said tax collection is "on target" for the year at 51.75% though some larger companies had still not paid their taxes, including over \$6 million from Enterprise. KT Resources (formerly 31 group) will not pay until August due to lack of production/revenue, according to Waldref. Basic Energy also owes money to

the county which cannot be collected since the company is currently in bankruptcy.

Weed and Pest Director Jane Turnburke said chemical sales are picking up, with the first official public sales starting next Thursday. She also said a lack of bids means there will be no helicopter spraying this year.

RIDGE ESTATES REQUEST

Meeker resident Sherry Halandras asked the board to consider plowing the road used to access Ridge Estates, since it has four entrances that all connect to County Road 13. She noted that subdivisions nearby had access points to state highways which are plowed regularly. The Ridge Estates subdivision has 35 total lots, most of which are sold. Only "11 people" are living there currently but more growth is expected. Halandras also listed other roads leading to one or two homes that also get plowed by the county.

RBC Road and Bridge Director Scott Marsh said he agreed that the road should be plowed, but noted that other subdivisions had made similar requests and stated, "If we do much more, you're actually looking at having to get another motor grader and another operator."

Citing budget concerns, Commissioner Moyer expressed concern over setting a precedent. The request comes amidst ongoing efforts to map existing county roads and potentially add/remove roads which are "not needed." The board will likely discuss the issue further in future work sessions and meetings.

LAND USE PLAN

RBC Conservation District Executive Director Callie Hendrickson presented the updated Land Use Plan to commissioners, who said they would review it by the end of the week. Following their review, the plan will go up on the Conservation District's website for a two week public comment peri-

od. Commissioner Moyer repeatedly highlighted the LUP's benefit as "the best tool in the toolbox" for counties to engage with the federal government on federal land/NEPA related issues.

Hendrickson also said the district was awarded a \$200K Restore Grant from the National Federation of Wildlife. Funds will be used for "coordinated resource management plans" working with individual permittees, including the Bureau of Land Management, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Forest Service, and other NGOs that private landowners want to work with in developing long-term plans to "improve resources across boundaries." Other potential grant-funded projects funded include Tamarisk removal on Yellow Creek by River's Edge West and other brush management and water projects in the Piceance Basin.

Referencing the ongoing White River Integrated Water Initiative process, Hendrickson said conversations in the lower part of the river reach revolved around forest/range/fire management, and sedimentation. The district has been offering stipends for pond cleaning of stock ponds, and still has some money left to distribute.

SLFRF

Budget and Finance Director Janae Stanworth will finalize spending reports for more than \$725K of federal recovery funds after confirming specific projects with the board Tuesday. The funding, which comes from \$1 million awarded to the county from "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund" will pay for various capital items including:

- Road and Bridge sand shed
- Backup generator for the Fairfield Complex
- Road and Bridge HVAC replacement (in Rangely and Meeker)

SLFRF Funds will also go towards three years worth of payments on various software upgrades, including shifting to a cloud-based accounting system, software for road and bridge cameras, and GIS software. After three years, the county will have to budget for any increased yearly costs as a result of new software/tech maintenance. The board still has around \$288K to allocate from SLFRF funds, which must be used for specific purposes. Stanworth suggested the need for potential cybersecurity upgrades. For now, the funding will remain unallocated until further discussion.

REGULAR MEETING

During their regular meeting the board appointed Christina Stephens to the Fair Board, granted a liquor license renewal to Ripple Creek Lodge, and approved

various MOUs including:

- Teepee Park Tower site lease agreement renewal with Gayle R. Crawford
- Amendment with T-O engineers revising scope of work for the Rangely Airport fence project, not to exceed \$9,957

■ agreement for CDOT's Division of Aeronautics to install weather cameras at the Rangely and Meeker airports.

The board also granted a \$669K bid award to Custom Fence Co. for the wildlife fence at Rangely airport, of which the FAA will pay 90%. The state and Rio Blanco County will both pay for 5% of the total cost.

To conclude their regular meeting, the board went into executive session "for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions" and to discuss personnel matters among other listed reasons.



NIKI TURNER PHOTO

The Rio Blanco County Republican Party's vacancy committee appointed Jennifer O'Hearon (right) of Rangely to fill former Commissioner Jeff Rector's seat. O'Hearon was sworn in on Wednesday, April 27 by RBC Clerk and Recorder Boots Campbell. Three other District 2 candidates were considered for the appointment: former CNCC President Ron Granger, Western Rio Blanco Metropolitan Park and Recreation Director Tim Webber, and former Rangely Town Trustee Luke Geer. O'Hearon has most recently been a special education teacher in the Rangely School District and before that was the Director of Human Services for Rio Blanco County until 2017.

PMC COMMUNITY UPDATE

Growth & Expansion

- **To date, we currently have 271 Full-Time Employees** – Please note that the total FTEs do not include traveling staff. Currently, PMC has 15 travelers who are temporary. We are looking to fill those 15 positions with FTEs.
- **New CT Scanner** – install in progress! We look to begin scanning patients with the new scanner within the next couple weeks, we are currently scanning patients with our mobile unit.
- **Centralized Sterile** – expansion in progress! Due to increased volume of surgical services, and to help turn the operating rooms appropriately for the volume of patients we are carting for, this new area will accommodate important sterilization equipment for surgical instruments.
- **Orthopedic and Meeker Family Health Center** – addition in progress! With the increase in patient volumes, we have outgrown our current clinic space within both clinics and our COVID-19 Federal dollars are assisting in the funding of the expansion build. The new clinic space will include increased waiting area space and patient rooms (waiting area can be divided between sick and well patients and the new patient rooms can be used as isolation or sick patient rooms during an outbreak of illness), as well as office space and storage.
- **Meeker Drug at PMC is on target to open this spring** – Our pharmacy is fully staffed, and we are finalizing insurance claims procedures and plan on a soft opening early May with a Grand Opening to follow, more details to come!
- **Looking to add a GYN provider** – More to come!

New Providers

- **Dr. J. Alex Sielatycki** – Dr. Sielatycki is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon with a fellowship in spine. His focus is on surgical motion preservation in both the cervical and lumbar spine.
- **Darren Nisly, DO** – Dr. Darren Nisly is a general surgeon who comes to PMC twice a month to perform surgeries. He is part of the General Surgeons of Western Colorado group.
- **Courtney Fulton, MD** – Dr. Courtney Fulton is part of the Surgical Associates of the Grand Valley and travels to PMC once a month for general surgeries.

Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) & Colorado Office of Economic Development
AGNC Enterprise Zone Designation – recently approved by the State for five years. Enterprise Zone Contribution Tax Credit provides a tax credit to Colorado taxpayers that contributes to targeted enterprise zone (EZ) projects. 25% of a cash donation will act as a state income tax credit for the donor. We are currently the only project in Rio Blanco County approved for this opportunity.

Grant Funding

To date, we have received over \$528,000 in grant funds this year which supports our efforts in improving our IT infrastructure to better support Tele-health, as well as the purchase of new ventilators and humidifiers for our Cardiopulmonary Department. We will continue applying for funding that will support our hospital's goal of providing excellent patient care.

NEWS NOTES

Meet and greet with Republican candidates

DINOSAUR | There will be a meet and greet with at least two Republican candidates for state office at the Dinosaur Fire Hall (301 Stegosaurus Way) from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, April 28. Confirmed candidates attending include Savannah Wolfson, candidate for Colorado House District 26, and Matt Solomon, candidate for Colorado Senate District 8.

Global Youth Service Day

RBC | Global Youth Service Day is April 29-May 1. It is considered the largest coordinated youth service event in the world. Youth are encouraged to make an impact in helping their local communities thrive by working together. 1. Find a friend to serve with. 2. Plan a project on JustServe.org or the JustServe app. 3. Share your experience using #GYSD or tag @Just_Serve.

Last day to vote by mail for recall

RBC | The last day to receive a ballot by mail for the Recall Election is May 2, 2022. Contact the Rio Blanco County Clerk and Recorder's office at 555 Main St., by phone at 970-878-9460 or by email at elections@rbc.us for additional information.

White River Alliance meeting May 5

MEEKER | The next White River Alliance meeting (Zoom and in person) is May 5 at 6 p.m., location to be announced. The meeting topic is "Underground Filtration Galleries: How do they work and what are their benefits?" with speakers Frank Alfone, director of the Mount Werner Water District in Steamboat Springs, and Travis Day, owner/operator of Water Pump and Supply Services LLC in Meeker.

Meeker book club May 9

MEEKER | The book club will be reading "The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu" by Joshua Hammer. We will discuss the book on Monday, May 9 at 1 p.m. All are welcome to join in the fun.



Meeker Christian Church
443 School St. • 878-5105

ADULTS & CHILDREN
Sunday School 10am Sun.
Church Service 11am Sun.

*Not the only Christians,
but Christians only*

NEW ADDITION ...



Levi, Tayslyn and Deneé Dinwiddie of Meeker welcomed Tainsley May on March 27, 2022, at exactly midnight at Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Tainsley was 7 lbs., 6 oz. and 19 inches long. Her grandparents are Alan and Becca Nielsen, Greg and Roxanne Chintala, and Mike and Karen Dinwiddie, all of Meeker.

COURTESY PHOTO

Spring FEVER Sale



15.5 oz. Food Club

Canned Beans

88¢



12 ct. Food Club

Taco Shells

\$1.99



1 lb. Food Club

Butter

\$3.69

GROCERY

14.5 oz. Food Club	CANNED TOMATOES	79¢
10 oz. Food Club Green Chiles in	DICED TOMATOES	79¢
16 oz. Food Club	REFRIED BEANS	79¢
16-18 oz. Don Julio	TORTILLA CHIPS	\$2.79
12 oz. Food Club Nacho Sliced	JALAPEÑOS	2 for \$3
15.5-16 oz. Food Club Picante Sauce or	SALSA	2 for \$3
10-12 oz. Wide Awake	COFFEE	2 for \$9
15 oz. Food Club Vanilla Caramel	COFFEE CREAMER	\$4.19
3.7 oz. Tapatio	RAMEN BOWL	2 for \$3
28 oz. Ajax Ultra	DISH SOAP	\$1.99
32 oz. Clorox	CLEAN UP	\$3.49
64 oz. Formula 409	ALL PURPOSE CLEANER	\$3.49
40-48 oz. Pinesol	CLEANER	\$3.49

DAIRY

16 oz. Food Club	COTTAGE CHEESE	\$1.49
52 oz. FairLife	MILK	\$3.99
16 oz. Food Club	SOUR CREAM	\$1.49
5.3 oz. Ratio	YOGURT	3 for \$4
8-10 ct. Don Julio	TORTILLAS	99¢
32 oz. Food Club Block or	SHREDDED CHEESE	\$5.99
1 lb. Kraft	CHEESE	\$4.99
8 oz. Food Club	SHREDDED CHEESE	\$1.99

MEAT

Beef Top	SIRLOIN STEAK	\$6.49/lb.
20 oz. Reser Baked Mac 'n Cheese or	SCALLOPED POTATOES	\$3.99
16 oz. Oscar Mayer	CHEESE DOGS	\$5.29
15 oz. Oscar Mayer Classic Uncured	BEEF FRANKS	\$5.29
15 oz. Oscar Mayer	ANGUS BEEF FRANKS	\$5.29

PRODUCE

Fresh	ASPARAGUS	\$1.99/lb.
Ripe	MANGOS	89¢
Whole	PINEAPPLE	99¢/lb.
Jalapeño	PEPPERS	\$1.29/lb.
Mini	WATERMELON	\$2.88
D'Anjou	PEARS	\$1.49/lb.
Choice	LEMONS	2 for \$1
Hawaiian	PAPAYAS	\$5.99
Fresh	CAULIFLOWER	\$1.29/lb.
Zucchini	SQUASH	69¢/lb.
5 lb. bag	RUSSET POTATOES	\$2.49
Celery	HEARTS	2 for \$5
32 oz. Baby Cut	CARROTS	2 for \$5
Red Ripe	TOMATOES	99¢/lb.
Loose Russet	BAKER POTATOES	69¢/lb.

1 lb. Strawberries



2 for \$5

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Culture

*You keep using that word.
I do not think it means
what you think it means.*

~ Inigo Montoya, Princess Bride

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

"Protecting our customs and culture." That phrase started showing up in county documents and being tossed around in meetings a few years back as an explanation for decisions made and actions taken. It reminds me of the classic frustrated mother's explanation: "Because I said so, that's why."

Every time I hear it, it disturbs me that the phrase has no clear parameters. Defining exactly which "customs and culture" are to be protected appears to have been left up to whichever random individual is using the statement to justify a policy decision or position. It's important to identify and agree on our core values before applying a rubber stamp "because I said so" statement.

Depending on individual perspective — background, role, interests and ambitions — the meaning of "customs and culture" could differ drastically from person to person. Consider Nathan Meeker's 1879 ideal for local customs and culture. His definition was wildly at odds with the original residents, and his attempt to force his customs and culture on everyone else didn't end well for anyone.

Two weeks ago I participated in the



for the town.

Freeman Fairfield scholarship selection committee for graduating MHS seniors. Part of the application includes an essay about Mr. Fairfield and what he did (and is still doing posthumously) for the town. For those who don't know, Freeman Fairfield was born in Meeker in 1899. Fairfield grew up, moved away and made his fortune, but never forgot where he came from. His donations were instrumental in establishing Pioneers Hospital and the Fairfield Community Center, among others. As he neared the end of his life, he dedicated \$2 million to a trust fund for the Town of Meeker. According to the terms of his will, the interest earned on that investment is distributed to specific community-benefiting projects in scientific, religious, educational, or health areas.

As I read through those student essays I found myself thinking, these are the kinds of customs and culture we really cherish: community-mindedness, coming together to meet local needs, and cooperation among individuals and groups for the common good.

KAYE'S CORNER

Mother's Day 2022 celebrations

By KAYE SULLIVAN
Special to the Herald Times

Let's celebrate Mother's Day! COVID restrictions such as restaurant closures, distancing and isolating have been lifted. Now, we can honor our moms like we did before things got crazy.

Whether your celebration is big or small, every mom appreciates the love behind the card, gift or food.

For young children, handmade cards or similar gifts will be lovingly saved for years. Hugs go a long way, too.

For older kids, spending some devoted time with your mom is a true gift. A special food item, maybe breakfast in bed or a much beloved dish or a cupcake says "love you mom."

It's always great to get moms out of the kitchen. So, consider cooking for her, a restaurant outing or carry-out meal.

Outdoor adventures can be fun, too. If your mom likes to walk, plan a walk or hike. Perhaps she would enjoy a drive upriver to watch spring emerging. Or weather permitting and gardening is a special

hobby, help your mom dig, plant if possible, and get ready to grow stuff. You could golf, bowl, see a movie or download a show to watch together. For those of us, including me, who live a long distance from our mothers, celebrating can be more challenging. Sending flowers always seems to brighten the day. You can search florists near your



Kaye Sullivan

Virginia Beach, Virginia. It has been more than two years since we've visited in person. She resides in assisted living and has been in lockdown during most of COVID. We had

scheduled this trip a few months ago, then delayed it when Omicron emerged and the airlines were cancelling flights left and right.

At age 96, my mother is still amazing. She grew up on a remote Indiana farm and was fortunate to acquire a college degree in home economics in 1944. She and my dad enjoyed a 55-year marriage. During WWII she managed like a single mom raising me while my dad was deployed in military service.

Somehow, she raised four children, sewed all our clothing, fed us well balanced meals, raised huge vegetable gardens, canned fresh produce, supported her church, attended PTA meetings, took food to the shut-ins and Christmas cookies to the patients at our local mental health asylum.

We kids joked, although it was true, that we could show up unannounced at mom's house with a bunch of people and she would have a healthy meal on the table in less than an hour. She was always generous welcoming guests, helping others, a devout Christian, and my dad's best friend.

I have chatted with a cousin about the sense that our generation of women will never live up to the grit and determination of our mothers. Their examples of caring, sharing, and enduring are truly awesome.

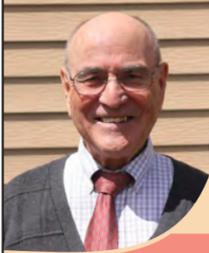
Just think of all the things your mom has done for you and remember to do something special for her. Happy Mother's Day to all you moms, grandmas, and great-grandmas.



mother's residence for the freshest flowers and least costly delivery.

Mail a card. Order a gift certificate to her favorite store. Or, my best recent gift was a massage — the first my Mother ever had received and she loved it.

On a personal note, I will finally get to see my mom soon who lives in



Come meet our New Minister!
Jim Pelley

National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 5

The church will be open during the noon hour for anyone who would like to drop by for a personal time of prayer.



Meeker Christian Church

443 School Street
970.878.5105

Adults & Children
Sunday School 10am Sun.
Church Service 11am Sun.

VOTE J.H. SHERIDAN
for Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District



- ♦ Longtime member of the Meeker community.
- ♦ 15+ years professional board experience.
- ♦ Active and engaged community volunteer.
- ♦ Assisted with the creation of the district in 2006.
- ♦ Genuinely interested in serving the district.
- ♦ Approachable, equitable, and committed to doing the right thing.

Vote in-person at the Fairfield Center
Tuesday, May 3rd.



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RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES

304 4th Street
P.O. Box 720
Meeker, CO 81641

970-878-4017

— PUBLISHER —
Solas Publications, Inc.

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



MEMBER

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Enough is enough

Dear Editor:

After over a year of legal wrangling in attempts to block or delay the recall by Commissioner Moyer and thus avoid a vote of the people, the day has finally come.

The story line from Mr. Moyer is that a bunch of liberals are telling lies about him because of his conservative principles, financial responsibility and holding county employees accountable. Let's take a closer look at each of these.

Conservative Principles — Rio Blanco is a very conservative county, that is why many of us enjoy living here. The group members that collected over 800 recall signatures, twice, are conservative. The problem is not the presence of conservatism, it is lack of principles. Time and again Mr. Moyer has come into a meeting clearly having discussed and decided an issue with now resigned Commissioner Rector, the two obviously

having left the third commissioner completely out of the loop. This happened with Commissioner Woodruff and continues today with Commissioner Gates.

While collecting signatures, we were told of an incident where Mr. Moyer approached an ex-county employee and asked for "dirt" on Commissioner Woodruff, so that it could be used to coerce his vote. Principles?

Financial responsibility — The annual revenues to the County have steadily fallen in recent years with future projected revenues to decline further. The projected budget deficit spending for 2022 is \$12 million. The approved deficit last year was \$ 4.4 million. The deficit in 2020 was \$ 1.3 million. During the same time period the Commissioners budget line item has gone from \$457K to \$533K. How much more "financial responsibility" can we afford? One of Mr. Moyer's first actions was to fire the long serving local

attorney and hire an out of town, part time attorney, which ended up costing nearly double for far inferior service.

Employee accountability — A primary driver for the recall effort was a result of Mr. Moyer's repeated disrespectful treatment of county employees and the general public. He likes to surround himself with "yes" men and bristles at the first hint of disagreement. Unfortunately, one of those yes men included Commissioner Rector, so if you fell into Moyer's disfavor, even long serving, dependable employees were at risk, without the normal employee protections.

Meanwhile, state statutes are ignored, Sunshine Laws are violated, and general decorum at the BOCC meetings is forgotten anytime Mr. Moyer feels threatened, which is often. We saw a good example of this at the

CCITF Workshop just this month. Instead of the occasional executive session, now there is one scheduled for

each meeting. Transparent?

While circulating the recall petition, we heard repeatedly from county employees of their reluctance to be involved for fear of retribution from Moyer. They said it was the worst morale they had experienced but could not speak, fearing Mr. Moyer would retaliate. The final straw before the recall effort was his shameful treatment of the County Health Director last year. When the hostile work environment was investigated by the state last summer, there were so many present and past employees that wished to be interviewed, that the interviewers simply ran out of time. The final report to the County was never released.

I know of at least 12 employees who were fired or left because of the hostile work environment created since Moyer's reign began. Many of these were department heads. Most of you know one or more of these people, ask them directly. Or ask any of the public

who have had the nerve to question Moyer's actions or suggest a different approach. They are either ignored or attacked, often in the meeting.

Accountability starts at the top. We want leaders who treat all people with respect, who make decisions in the open, and who don't let personal vendettas inform their actions.

Vote "yes" on the recall and give us a true leader.

Jeff Madison
Meeker

More on the White River Alliance

Dear Editor:

There's a lot of folks talking about the White River these days. Drought, water storage, algae, and the river's overall health are a big focus. Along the way the White River Alliance has joined efforts to promote education and share information related to the White River. Over the past couple years, we've hosted presentations from experts in many fields that have given us a better insight to understanding our river and water resources.

Our presentations are available to everyone. We've hosted PhD economist on population trends, our local BLM archeologist, several state water experts, partners who specialize in invasive species, our local CPW fish biologist, the White River Water Initiative coordinator, and River Watch. All have been sharing their information for people like me who want to know more.

In addition to sponsoring well received guests and pre-

► See **LETTERS**, Page 6A

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MEET & GREET
STATE CANDIDATES
Savannah Wolfson
(House District 26)
and Matt Solomon
(Senate District 8)
Saturday, April 30, 1 to 5 p.m.
Dinosaur Fire Hall
Other candidates may participate but aren't confirmed.

Please join us!
Meet and greet your local candidate for RBC Commissioner, Virginia "Ginny" Love, and your State Senate candidate Matt Solomon.
★ ★ ★
Monday, May 2nd
5:00-6:30pm
The Mexican House
624 Market St., Meeker
This is a great opportunity to ask questions and voice concerns!
Hope to see you there!

White River Electric Association Inc. MEeker, Colo.

Kilowatt Korner
APRIL 2022

April brings rain and snow showers with the hopes of May flowers. April also celebrates Earth Day which began in 1970 as a day to show support for the environment. WREA, like electric distribution cooperatives around the country, was founded by farmers and ranchers whose way of life depended on sensible environmental stewardship. WREA continues to honor these values by advancing a responsible and practical approach to providing electricity to its members which includes a diverse energy portfolio. Almost a decade ago, WREA's Board set out a simple local renewable energy policy which is to pursue local projects that make sense both financially and electrically. This policy supports WREA's primary mission which is to provide safe, reliable and affordable power to our membership. WREA developed three local projects that achieved our goals with the Miller Creek Ditch Hydro Project, the Meeker Solar Garden and the Piceance Creek Solar Farm. These projects met electric and financial requirements as well as offer members direct access to local solar generation with the White River Solar leasing program.

WREA's Board of Directors and management recently attended Tri-State Generation and Transmission's (Tri-State), Annual Meeting which focused on reliability and affordability during the transition to more renewable energy. WREA is confident that Tri-State is well prepared to balance the use of renewables and load base generation with a strong transmission system so it can reliably provide WREA power even when the sun doesn't shine, and the wind doesn't blow.

Today, just over 35% of the total energy consumed by WREA members is renewable; 34% from Tri-State and just over 1% from WREA's locally generated power. By 2024, over 50% of WREA's wholesale power will be generated from renewable sources and by 2030, over 70% of the power consumed by WREA members will be from renewable sources. Tri-State's diligence along with its extensive transmission system and diverse power supply allowed it to weather the 2021 Winter Storm Uri with minimal system issues and no corresponding rate increase. Future reliability depends on Tri-State's continued investment in additional transmission and maintaining a diverse power supply. Recently, Tri-State joined the SPP Western Energy Imbalance Service to support efficient use of transmission and generation so that it can effectively utilize its diverse energy sources throughout its large service territory. WREA continues to advocate for regional load base generation including natural gas to support Tri-State's diversified energy mix.

Electricity is the energy that fuels our lives and our economy which makes it a relevant topic of conversation not only on Earth Day but throughout the year. We are excited that this month's Kilowatt Korner kicks off a conversation with the *Rio Blanco Herald Times* (HT) about WREA and our energy future. Next week the HT will dive deeper into renewable energy and reliability with an in-depth article followed by a HT Energy Podcast featuring WREA's General Manager, Alan Michalewicz.

As we wrap up the month of April, don't forget to turn in your White River Solar leases by **Friday, April 29, 2022**. Please call if you have any questions about solar leasing. It seems like we have had even more spring winds than normal, so please continue to be cautious of power lines with spring burns. Director Candidate Petitions for this fall's WREA Board elections will be available beginning on **June 15, 2022**. In September, one director from the Town of Meeker District and two Directors from the Rural District will be elected. And mark your calendars for the Member Appreciation Event on **Friday, July 22, 2022**, on the RBC Courthouse Lawn with food, music, and member appreciation gifts.

Thank you!
- White River Electric Association

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- ¶ PROPAGANDA PRETENDING TO BE NEWS
- ¶ OPINION MASQUERADING AS FACT
- ¶ NOT KNOWING WHAT THE #@!% IS GOING ON

THEN BY ALL MEANS, DO NOT READ YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ¶

GUEST COLUMN

Not all sources are online

By ED PECK
Special to the Herald Times

I know that comes as a surprise to you. As matter of fact, the majority is not. Here is where I push writing or better yet visiting the county where your ancestors spent a few generations. Most of the colorful things about your family may be already available in local libraries, historical societies, and genealogical societies. <https://usgenweb.org> is a good site to get an overview of what resources are available for the county you are researching. It lists local and state organizations, databases, searchable databases, lists of graveyards, indexes of all kinds. [Familysearch.org](https://familysearch.org) has a tab called "catalog". You type in the specific county or region and it lists books written about the area, histories, church records, and sometimes the records are online. Sometimes old marriages and christenings are easier to find in church records than courthouse records. One of the first sources to check is books written about the county or region. If you find the name and author of a book not in your local library, look it up on <https://worldcat.org>. It will show you libraries who have it anywhere in the country. Then you can contact a librarian at that location and request "a lookup". Be nice, Librarians are overworked people. Old County Histories often contain biographies of prominent

families, early township maps. Back East counties were not generally divided into uniform grids. Voting townships were drawn around geography and named after early settlers or presidents. These history books also contain clues about boundary changes through time. Even State lines and territories moved. The people didn't move, just the lines. Our White River Valley was originally in Summit County, then Garfield County and presently in Rio Blanco County. This knowledge is valuable to you. Land records for the same ranch might be found in three different county seats. If you can't find an ancestor in the county you expect, widen your search to surrounding counties. I had relatives who picked up their mail in one county, paid taxes in another, and courted a wife in a third. Most old deeds are available only at the county courthouse. Many county clerks are hiring companies to come in and make digital images of all their public records. The images are then made available at a commercial website which you pay a fee to get the image downloaded to your computer. Rio Blanco County is in the process of doing that right now. I will let know when that is finished. Sweden has most of its church and public records online already, for a fee.

IF YOU ARE COMPUTER-PHOBIC, THERE IS STILL A WAY TO GET DOCUMENTS.

GUEST COLUMN

A do-it-yourself, homegrown national park

BY ASTA BOWEN
Writers on the Range

National parks have been getting a lot of love since the pandemic, so much that this summer you need reservations at many. For example, you must make a reservation just to drive Montana's legendary Going-To-The-Sun Road in Glacier National Park, and passes can sell out within hours of release.

That's better than stalking parking lots before sunrise and finding trails turning into conga lines, but it makes me all the more interested in a new national park that's in the works. It's even closer to home than I would have thought possible.

It's also closer to you. "Homegrown National Park" is the brainchild of Doug Tallamy, an entomologist at the University of Delaware and author of Nature's Best Hope. His pitch: we're in trouble biologically, and it has to do with things we often take for granted: basics like soil and water, and pollinators for most of the crops we eat, without which we two-leggers could quickly become extinct ourselves. Half a century after banning DDT, we're still losing 60 million birds a year, and it's not just their pretty singing that's at stake.

You could thank a yellow warbler, for example, for the coffee you're drinking, which might have been ruined back in Costa Rica if not for the birds providing pest control on the plantation. As for those timbers holding up the roof over your head? It's birds like the chickadee that helped protect that Doug fir from spruce budworm back in the forest.

When it comes to the food chain, those of us at the top will do well to understand what's at the bottom, and here's the rub: Saving trees is not enough. We also need the birds and bugs, and they can't all live in national parks.

Despite our wealth of public lands, most of the country is under private ownership. Tallamy's idea is to capitalize on that with a large number of small projects — as small as a city lot in the old railroad town of Livingston, Montana, or even a corner of your own front yard.

So it's about my yard, and maybe yours. They don't have to be ecologically pristine to be biologically valuable, and you don't have to dig up the whole lawn to make a difference. But if we build it, who will come? Even a few square feet of native plants can bring a missing species back home.

In Livingston, after Beth Madden planted her "postage stamp" lawn with native shrubs and wildflowers, the variety of visiting birds grew from seven species — mostly non-native starlings, pigeons, and such — to more than 50. She saw flocks of warblers feasting for hours on tiny bugs to fuel their migration and a giant sphinx moth pollinating the new bee balm.

Over in Bozeman, a resident who started with a typical lawn found herself in the middle of a "pollinator desert," despite being right across the street from a park, which consisted of mowed grass and just a few trees. Using thick layers of mulch and water-wise native plants, she turned a hot, south-facing part of her yard into a



Asta Bowen

refuge drawing bees, moths, and before long, butterflies. As conservationist Paulette Epple noted, "The last plant blooming in the fall is smooth aster and it is always crawling with bees."

Another bird enthusiast tried for years to attract hummingbirds to her feeders, with no luck. But after swapping out her petunias and marigolds for more bird-friendly plantings, she was rewarded with her first calliope hummingbird.

Even in downtown New York City, along the reclaimed High Line Park, Doug Tallamy found native plants growing on "grit," plus four species of native bees, and two monarch butterflies nectaring away — all 30 feet above city traffic.

My own yard is a study in benign neglect, but last spring my neighbor and I decided to put in a "friendship hedge" along our property line. Together we planted two types of native currant bushes, and pollinators were on them before we'd even put the tools away. Come fall, the bushes with the most berries turned out to be — surprise, surprise — the same variety as a wild currant that was already growing just up the hill.

You won't find it in a travel brochure, but Homegrown National Park is open year-round. No crowds, no lines, and no reservations required.

Asta Bowen is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. She writes in Montana.

LETTERS: continued

► Continued from Page A5

sentations, the White River Alliance will be giving out again this year a scholarship to a deserving graduate at Meeker High School graduation next month and another scholarship at the Rangely High School graduation as well - to students that have shown leadership in conservation.

The White River Alliance is committed to bringing people together, regardless of political party or what side of the river they're on, who share a community of thought and support for the White River.

As a landowner on the upper White River, I have a grown to appreciate how our activities might affect the river. With a trout pond, ditches and livestock along the river, I'm more aware of our practices than ever. I have found that fellow landowners and stewards along the White River feel the same way. They want to learn more, and see the healthiest river possible.

About the time the algae bloom peaked in 2018 a real movement began and folks started looking closer at the river and thinking more about how their practices might affect the river and possibly algae. This awareness about the river has been supported by everyone I know.

This may be great for the river but maybe not the algae study group. With people becoming more aware of what we do along the White River, activities and practices may have changed enough to make it difficult or impossible to fully determine what caused the algae bloom. Let's hope so!

In 2021 the same low flows and high water temperatures occurred along with Lake Avery releases like they did in 2018, but the algae didn't appear (as much).

To learn more about these issues, please check out the White River Alliance. Join us at our next gathering on May 5th 6:00 PM. We're excited to host a presentation by Frank Alfone from the Mt Warner Water District. He will tell us about new "filtration galleries" they will be using to provide clean water for Steamboat.

Local driller Travis Day will also be joining us! He will share some of his expertise about drilling for ground water along the White River.

Please check us out at [WhiteRiverAlliance.net](https://www.whiteriveralliance.net). See you there!

Shawn Welder
President, White River Alliance

Penny drive success

Dear Editor:

A big "thank you" from Mountain Valley Bank to our business community and to all of you that took the time to take pennies to your favorite business. As a result of your efforts 81,317 pennies were collected as a part of our Red Letter Day Penny Drive! Our Penny Drive contest winner was Chippers with 26,342 pennies. MGM had loyal contributors and came in second with 14,291 pennies! We are thrilled to award a Blanco Cellars & The Little Cheese Shop cheese board to Chippers to congratulate them on their win and thank them for the excitement and competitive spirit that they brought to the event.

Mountain Valley Bank is proud to match these pennies and make a total donation of \$1,626.34 to be shared between the Meeker Education Foundation and Hope West. These organizations emulate the mission of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows whose history we celebrate on April 26, our Red Letter Day.

Thank you for helping us celebrate our community and the history of our building. We love Meeker!

Tawny S. Halandras
Meeker Market President
Mountain Valley Bank



COURTESY PHOTO

Mountain Valley Bank thanks the community for their donation of 81,317 pennies as part of the Red Letter Day Penny Drive. Above, bank president Tawny Halandras with the "Penny Cart."

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Golf course seeks support from Town

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

MEEKER I Meeker's nine-hole golf course is in need of new management according to Tim Nelson, speaking on behalf of the Rio Blanco Golf Association (RBGA) at the April 22 meeting of the Meeker Board of Trustees.

The RBGA is "opening a conversation" with the Town of Meeker, and plans to include the Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Park and Recreation District in the discussion, about the possibility of purchasing and/or managing the golf course.

The Meeker Golf Course has been in existence since the 1960s and attracts out-of-town visitors to the area. Nelson said somewhere around 70% of public play is by out-of-town guests to the course.

"Jim Cook built the course into a very popular course on the Western Slope," Nelson told the board. "We've been rotating through management since."

The RBGA hopes to keep the course "usable and affordable." There are concerns that a sale of the course to private investor or group would jeopardize those attributes.

Mayor Kent Borchard and trustees echoed their appreciation for the community amenity, and agreed they don't want it to go away. The board agreed to discuss the issue at a later date.

Also at the April 19 meeting:

■ Mayor Borchard and trustees Scott Nielsen, Tiffany Jehorek and Chris Lockwood were sworn in to new terms. There was no contested election for those offices this spring.

■ Approved, on staff's

recommendation, a liquor license application for Trailhead Cabins and Lodging.

■ Approved the appointment of Greg Hanberg and Jim Kendall to the Meeker Planning Commission to fill two vacant seats. Hanberg has been in Meeker for 11 years, works as the radiology director at Pioneers Medical Center, and operated an in-home business with his wife Megan. Hanberg said "being part of the commission is part of giving back to the community from the things we've received." Kendall is a 1992 Meeker High School alum with a background in construction. He returned to Meeker four years ago with hopes to "get more involved this time around." Town staff was instructed to prepare a resolution for the appointment.

■ Awarded the Garfield Street water line replacement bid to TDA Construction for \$447K and approved a \$32K contract with Rocky Mountain Asphalt for the annual crack seal project, with work expected to start April 25 and be finished — conditions permitting — in five days.

■ Approved partial abandonment of a subdivision and security agreement for Escondido Subdivision, owned by Regas Halandras. Halandras said the subdivision plan, finalized in 2011, would change the area and costs have increased. Instead of seven lots on 21 acres, they intend to return with a plan for two lots. "It would keep it more open and secluded," Halandras said, noting that Escondido means "hidden."

The board also discussed its lease with the Chamber of Commerce for the second floor at Town Hall.

SWEARING IN ...



Trustees (front, left to right) Scott Nielsen, Tiffany Jehorek and Chris Lockwood were sworn in for new terms, along with Mayor Kent Borchard (back), by Town Clerk Lisa Cook.

NIKI TURNER PHOTO

MSD recognizes staff achievements, discusses anti-bullying policies

By **LUCAS TURNER**
lucas@ht1885.com

MEEKER I Meeker School District board members recognized staff at their meeting this week including Laura Koenig, who recently completed her teacher induction program. Three MSD coaches were also recognized by CHSAA, including:

■ Shane Phelan (1A Western Slope Football Coach of the Year)

■ J.C. Watt (2A Wrestling Coach of the Year)

■ Klark Kindler (2A Athletic Director of the Year)

The board approved a new program for Meeker High School students in partnership with "Building Trades/Careers in Construction Colorado." The program will allow students to gain "pre-apprenticeship certificates" in building construction technology, carpentry, solar installation, plumbing, electrical wiring, brick masonry, landscaping, painting and other trades. The school will receive over \$10K in funding for implementing the pro-

gram including a \$2,500 teacher stipend and additional funding for each student who completes the program.

The board approved a one-time \$500 bonus for all full-time staff, plus bus drivers and food service workers.

A longer discussion Monday centered around potential to update the district's anti-bullying policies to match state recommendations. The district is required to have an anti-bullying policy by state statute. Some board members seemed to agree the policy did not need an update, others suggested potentially adding language about cyber-bullying to the policy. No action was taken.

Superintendent Chris Selle reported that more Elementary School repairs are coming up. While the building is one of the newest in the district, Selle said it's coming up on 15 years of age and is due for repairs of "mechanical issues."

Meeker School District is opening new positions for a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Coordinator, and a literacy coach.



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This publication is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$292,794.00 with 100 percent funding by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.



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Candidate Q&A: Eastern Rio Blanco Health Service District

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Seven candidates are running for three seats on Meeker's hospital board this election cycle. As an in-person forum was not possible due to scheduling conflicts, the *HT* provided an online survey for readers to submit questions and have included those here, as well. Candidate responses are in no particular order below, laid out as space allows.

WHAT WE ASKED:

1. What do we need to know about you? (brief bio, board experience, potential conflicts of interest ... e.g. current or past employment of self or family members, business connections, legal issues with the district, etc.)
2. In your opinion, is the district moving in the right direction or the wrong direction for the Meeker community and why?
3. What are the 3 biggest concerns you have for the district and what ideas would you bring to the board to address those concerns?

WHAT YOU ASKED:

These questions were submitted anonymously through an online survey in lieu of an in-person forum.

4. Are you in support of open bidding for building projects?
5. What are your feelings about sharing information from executive sessions?
6. Communication and transparency has been a major issue at PMC, how do you plan to improve it? This includes communication between board and hospital administration, hospital administration and PMC staff, PMC staff and board. Nearly a year ago two board members resigned.
7. The board and hospital CEO decided to not fill those positions. Where do you stand on a 7 vs 5 member board?
8. The current board has been very easily manipulated and controlled by the hospital CEO. How easily will it be for the current CEO to manipulate this newly elected board?
9. How will the newly elected board members address the constant need for additional construction and the money being spent on it?
10. How will you address the constant turnover that the hospital has seen the last 2 years?
11. Transparency and honesty are valued traits in this area. How can you as a board member exhibit both of those traits?
12. In years past, Pioneers Medical Center has been involved in the community in every event and assisted many organizations in Meeker. How can you as a board member bring the community involvement back to this organization that has been lost with this administration?

WADE BRADFELD



1. After graduating from Meeker High School and Colorado Northwestern Community College, my wife and I spent about eleven years in the Portland, Oregon, area. I was an aircraft mechanic, and she worked at a level 1 Trauma center.

We decided to move back home in 1996 to raise our son closer to family and start a business. We opened Carquest Auto Parts while my wife worked in Craig at The Memorial Hospital. After three years, we sold the store and opened Meeker Collision Center, which we still run today. My wife has worked at PMC twice, at both the old and new locations. She left last April. I served on the Meeker Fire Board for eight years until I was termed out four years ago. Six years as board chair and a volunteer EMT for the last seven years.

2. PMC appears to be moving in the right direction from what I can see. I need to look at financials and see what plans they have for the future to make a more informed opinion. I would also hope the

aging population has been considered and how to diversify income sources.

3. I'm concerned about constant construction and rapid growth. I would like to see the hospital and community grow and prosper, but I have seen downturns in our town before and hope the current Board has taken that into account. I also have noticed a lot of turnover in staff. I interact most often with the ER, but people have shared that all departments have had a lot of turnovers. People leave for many reasons beyond an employer's control but providing a good work environment with appropriate compensation is something PMC should strive to do.

4. Easy, the citizens of our community.

5. Generally yes, with a preference for local contractors if they can do the project. I was involved in the purchase and new construction of the office and training center for the Fire District. We used locals where possible and held them to our timeline.

6. Never. If it's in an executive session, it can't be shared. However, I have seen executive sessions abused, and they should be used minimally.

7. Communication is always vital, whether like me with nine employees or PMC with over 200. Hospital leadership must establish both internal and external lines of communication so staff and the public can be heard without unnecessary circular conversations that lead to gossip and poor morale.

8. I feel the drop to five was a mistake by the Board. It was perceived as sneaky and without input from the public. I'm sure PMC legal looked at and approved it, but that decision continues to be criticized.

9. The wording of this question makes me uncomfortable. I know four current board members, and I cannot see them bullied or manipulated—the CEO answers to the Board. I will value the CEO's opinion and suggestions. If a person has made it to the CEO position, they should have a vast knowledge of healthcare and business for the Board to draw from. I also think the Board should educate themselves and stay apprised of state and federal changes affecting the hospital's reimbursement rate. I will do what is best for our community's health care while trying to provide the most cost-effective approach for the taxpayer.

10. As I previously stated, to justify additional construction, PMC needs to have a clear, strategic vision communicated and supported by the staff and our community. As a board member, I will need to see how future projects are funded and if they are truly beneficial to the community.

11. Turnover is not a problem that is isolated to the hospital. I see new faces at the lumber yard, bank, restaurants, etc. However, it is imperative to have a culture that supports and values the staff. I would support programs to "grow our own" and minimize the need to utilize traveling staff.

12. Minimize executive sessions and do what you say. As a board, we work for you.

13. The Board sets the tone for the organization and is ultimately responsible for its culture and reputation. Many organizations include community service as part of their performance evaluation process, including executive leadership. I think this would be a good place to start.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,
Wade Bradfield

JEFF ESKELSON



1. I was born and raised in Meeker. Attended college in Denver and Arizona State University. We own a small business in Meeker and I'm a Consultant Engineer for Rockwell Automation. My Dad (Dr. Eskelson) and Mother (Judy Eskelson) practiced medicine in Meeker, each for over 40 years. My wife (Kristen) is an RN and currently in charge of Infection Prevention for PMC. I have served on the Chamber of Commerce and was a County Commissioner from 2012 to 2016.

2. I believe financial growth and opportunity for our community are a positive thing. Our community has been fortunate that PMC developed and acquired expertise in specific markets in the medical industry that have allowed their employment and revenue numbers to increase steadily.

3. - Continuous, responsible growth. With growth come growing pains, finding or developing the necessary staff, ensuring we have the infrastructure, equipment and financial capacity for continued growth and opportunities.

- Employee acquisition and retention. This is a large issue as the responsibility lies not only with the hospital but the community

at large. Exploring new internal skills and educational opportunities for the people that already live here is a start.

- Regulations and the agencies that enforce them. It seems to me that the smaller hospitals seem to bear more relative weight in some of the seemingly ridiculous rules and regulations that have inhibited PMC's ability to provide high quality healthcare. One idea is address the legislators directly. We have Commissioners but who is better suited to carry an issue to an agency like AGNC than a member of the board of directors with intimate knowledge of the requirements and unnecessary pressure placed on personnel by these agencies?

4. I'm not only an advocate for open bidding, I'm a huge supporter of leveraging every resource possible in utilizing local contractors and businesses where feasible.

5. First my feelings about executive sessions in general. Executive sessions should be used as sparingly as possible and only when legal, personnel or other legal matters that have a necessary confidential component requiring board discussion. There are legal ramifications for publicly disclosing information discussed in these sessions. There is usually an honor based agreement between board members that information discussed within the framework of an executive session is kept private unless agreed upon by the members of the board.

6. I believe firmly in the chain of command. If a manager or supervisor cannot handle the tasks set forth for them by their managers or the board then changes need to be made. That being said I also believe in an open door policy for all personnel and management. It's ludicrous to assume that an employee, patient or constituent cannot speak directly to a board member or any member of the management team with the caveat that all employees and managers have a clear understanding of their duties, responsibilities and reporting structure. I.E. I am happy to hear and discuss any pertinent issue but we will agree in the end that the chain of command will be followed.

7. Bench depth and the number of people that are willing or able to serve on all these community boards can be an issue. I personally think we can all have success with either number on the board.

8. Relationships are as varied as the people in them. The highest percentage of failure in any relationship generally boils down to one word, communication. Has the board convened, studied and developed a deep understanding of the goals and expectations of hospital leadership and effectively communicated these expectations?

9. Constantly emerging and developing markets need constantly moving and

evolving infrastructure, equipment and personnel. As PMC continues to acquire and develop skills, technology and expertise, our responsibility is to analyze the short and long term costs and return on investment for these evolutions.

10. Employee retention in this area has always been an issue. Many factors come into play, cost of living, housing etc. The one area I believe we can make strides in is having a stable, challenging, pleasant place to work. This again boils down to ensuring an open dialogue between all employees, management and the board of directors but in my view, the most important factor is a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities.

11. In a word, trust. We need to earn the trust of the community and we need to earn the trust of the employees. In my opinion, communication is once again the key to obtaining this goal.

12. I believe we can accomplish this by reconnecting and collaborating with outstanding groups that already exist in the community, partnering and augmenting community events, scholarship opportunities and making a conscious effort to be involved in all the great summer and winter events.

KAI TURNER (incumbent)



I was born in Rangely, Colorado, in 1962, grew up in Meeker and lived here most of my life. I have been on the PMC board for nearly six years. I have a sister-in-law who is a doctor at PMC but do not feel it is a conflict. I feel it is important to serve our community and have served on a few other boards in the area.

Pioneers Medical Center is moving in a positive direction and expanding departments and some services. PMC employs

nearly 200 people and with failing rural hospitals around the state and country it's fortunate we have staff that believe in providing personalized medical service we all want for our friends and family in a rural area.

Growing pains have been a challenge and even though it's very exciting, being proactive is sometimes difficult to maintain. Trial and error from being reactive at times does provide valuable lessons as the organization moves forward in a positive direction. Housing is and has been a big issue for not only the hospital but other entities.

The PMC board is a representation of the community and should try to make deci-

sions for the majority of the people and be fiscally responsible.

Communication is paramount for any successful organization and sometimes needs re-prioritized as growing causes interruption, especially for newer staff. Better strategic planning can resume now as everyone knows it has been difficult the past few years.

In rural communities where people are very busy it is often hard for organizations to recruit board members. A 5 or 7 member board is fine as long as the board can function well and be representative of the community.

Construction and expansion of our facility

is important, with rural hospitals deteriorating we need to take advantage of this opportunity in our community for economics and continue to provide the best service we can as people from surrounding areas are using our services more and more.

Community involvement for the hospital is very important and has been challenging with the growth and changes at the hospital along with a pandemic. I feel we have made it through some tough times and more to come but are now in a position to be more proactive with the community restarting some of the programs that were successful in the past and hopefully some new community engagement activities.

HOW TO VOTE:

IF YOU RECEIVED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, YOU CAN MAIL IT IN OR DELIVER TO THE DROP BOX IN THE HOSPITAL LOBBY.

IN ONLY

TUESDAY, MAY 3RD, 2022 ~ 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.
FAIRFIELD CENTER, 200 MAIN STREET, MEEKER

BOBBY GUTIERREZ



Thank you in advance to the voters of eastern Rio Blanco County for the opportunity to earn your trust and your vote in the upcoming special district election of the ERBC Health Services District, May 3, 2022.

My name is Bobby Gutierrez, I was born in the original Pioneers Hospital more than 60 years ago and it would be an honor to serve on the board of directors of what I believe is our county's finest facility.

I have been married to my wife Wendy for 17 years and between us we have three grown children, who have blessed us with eight wonderful grandkids.

Wendy opened Wendll's more than 25 years ago and we opened a coffee shop together 14 years ago, then started roasting our own coffee last year. We are appreciative of all the personal and business relationships we have developed over the years and we are always trying to give back to the community, which has given us so much.

Our daughter Fallon is employed by Pioneers Medical Center as a registered nurse in the emergency department and our niece Alexis has participated in PMC's "Grow our Own" program since high school, she is currently employed as the Social Service Coordinator for the Walbridge Wing.

I have served as a board member for the Meeker Chamber of Commerce and the Rio Blanco County Historical Society. I was happy to serve the communities of Meeker and Rangely, working for my hometown newspaper, the Rio Blanco Herald Times for more than 20 years as a reporter/photographer/salesman/distributor and even two stints as its editor.

If you trust me with your vote and I am elected, I promise to listen and learn as much as I can about the healthcare industry, to continue education on becoming a better, more effective board member, to use my communication skills to strengthen relationships between the board, the administrators, the providers, the staff and the community and to use my marketing experience to build relationships, to help promote the providers and services offered by the district.

In my humble opinion, our Health Services District is moving in the right direction, providing high quality health care services, using the latest technology, which not only serves our community but also draws clients from surrounding communities, while being one of, if not the largest employer in the county.

The three biggest concerns or what I consider opportunities for improvement for the district are: transparency, recruitment/retention and growth.

As a former reporter, transparency is key to me, especially for a special taxing district, which are accountable to the eastern RBC

taxpayers. I believe public business should be done in public and executive sessions should be compliant with Colorado Sunshine laws. I believe better communication is needed between all parties on all levels to make sure we are all on the same page and working towards the same goals.

I plan to study and ask questions to learn more about the district's recruitment and retention policy. I believe the district currently has a great staff and could hire more. The district should be the premiere employer of the county, with competitive salaries and benefits but there are other factors like limited housing and child care which make recruitment and retention more challenging. Growth is another area of opportunity for the district and it seems to be expanding their facility and services, hopefully responsibly and as finances allow. I believe it is imperative to keep up with technological advancements, as well as maintain and expand the district's facilities and services as the needs of the community change.

I'm in favor of open bidding and information from executive sessions, by law, should not be shared with those not in the meeting. The ERBC Health Services District was established in 2006 by the voters of ERBC, as a seven-person board after much thought and consideration. With revenues of more than \$40 million and employing approximately 200 people, seven members will have more ideas and make better, more informed decisions than five, in my humble opinion. I do not agree with or believe the claim of "lack of

interest" in the community for serving on the board (a seven-person ballot for three seats is proof of interest), nor do I believe the claim gives the five remaining board members the right to override the will of the voters by the signing of a resolution amending the district's bylaws. If elected, I would make a motion for the district to go back to a seven-person board and appoint the next highest vote-earners of this upcoming election, to the remaining two positions, thus filling a seven-person board again, as the district was originally created by the voters.

In past years, PMC has been very involved in the community but since the pandemic, I believe it has been challenging for the district to have as much involvement via programs and community events as it did pre-pandemic.

Hopefully, as we move past the pandemic, the district, the board, the staff and the community can close the six-foot gap and work more closely together again, to live healthy, happy lives in eastern Rio Blanco County. Thank you again for your interest in the eastern Rio Blanco County Health Services District, I ask for your trust and your vote in the May 3, 2022 special district election. Most importantly, please exercise your right to vote!

God bless all Rio Blanco County voters, the ERBC Health Services District, its board of directors, its providers, its staff and its suppliers.

MIKE HOKE



1) I was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska where I attended Creighton University before moving to Colorado Springs in 1968 where I continued my studies at UCSS. I moved to Meeker in 1978 when I was hired on at ColoWyo, staying with them for 31

years and retiring in 2009. After five years of retirement I was asked to drive a school bus for the Meeker School District where I drove full time for seven years and am currently employed as a relief driver.

I served on the Meeker Planning Commission from 1989-1996, the PMC Board from 2010-2018, the period of planning and constructing the present facility, and am currently serving on the Meeker Sanitation Board, since 2011, along with Pioneers Healthcare Foundation since 2021. I was a member of Pioneers Healthcare Foundation in 2016 and 2017 as well. I also served the community as an EMT for the Meeker Ambulance Service and Colowyo from 1988-1996.

2) I believe the District is moving in the right direction overall as far as meeting the medical needs of the community.

3) My three main concerns are as follows:

- The Board moving to a five person board from a seven person board without community input and thereby limiting community representation.
- Lack of transparency and regular use of Executive Session at meetings are also

concerns. When we proceeded with the plans and construction of the hospital I felt strongly about the need for transparency in every phase of the project and we did everything we could to keep the community informed. The hospital is partially funded by the taxpayers and therefore accountable to such, who have every right to be informed and allowed to engage regarding important decisions.

c. My third concern is the excessive use of traveling nurses by PMC because of the inability to hire and keep permanent staff. The challenges of staffing in a rural community are significant with limited shopping, entertainment, etc. and are partially mitigated by programs such as "Build Your Own" which is a scholarship program supported by Pioneer Health Foundation. It encourages and supports current residents of the community to pursue careers in healthcare here at PMC. Not only should PMC be more involved in supporting the scholarship program, but provide pertinent information regarding all Meeker has to offer as well as the challenges of living in a rural community to prospective applicants outside of the community. Too often PMC has hired qualified individuals only to see them leave in a short amount of time because they were not prepared for the challenges of living in a rural community.

4) The Board is accountable to the taxpayers who elected them to serve the people and trust them to be fiscally responsible while meeting the medical needs of the community.

5) I am a huge advocate of open bidding which was used when building the current facility. We also requested each contractor,

if selected, to hire local people, using local resources as much as possible. There are a number of people from this community who are still employed by the companies who hired them initially for construction of PMC.

6) Executive Session should be used on a very limited basis and only when legally required. Some issues brought to the Boards attention cannot be made public and this is the only reason executive session should be used. When it is used in the manner it was meant for I do not believe that information should or can be shared. If executive sessions are used in the majority of meetings, this could be a serious red flag.

Additional question answers

Effective and honest communication is imperative for any organization to run smoothly. I can think of few other organizations where communication is as important as in a facility such as PMC, where lack of communication not only affects the organization as a whole, but could have devastating consequences for patients. If anyone involved in PMC, employees, department heads, or even administration have honest issues with effective communication they should be directed to courses to help them overcome this problem. If they refuse to address the issue then other steps may need to be taken. When speaking of transparency in regards to hospital staff and board members I believe it is imperative there be no hidden agendas. Honest, open communication is essential on all levels.

Although I prefer a seven person board for

better representation, I believe a five person board can be adequate if the board members are approachable, allowing concerned parties to express their ideas or concerns and always taking them into consideration.

I honestly have no knowledge of anybody being manipulated by anybody else. The definition of manipulate is to manage or influence skillfully, especially in an unfair manner ([Dictionary.com](#)). If the CEO or any board member cannot engage honestly with others then I don't believe they have any business being in either position.

Turnover in the hospital is nothing new. With COVID the issue was made worse. I believe I answered this question in #3c specifically.

Board members are elected by the community to represent them and should always keep that in the forefront of any decision they make, making sure the organization is being transparent through whatever means necessary (i.e., newspapers, open board meetings, town hall discussions, etc). Honesty is of the utmost importance no matter how difficult the subject. The taxpayers definitely have the right to know.

I do not know if anything was lost, but I believe strongly in PMC's involvement in community projects and events. This has been done through the Pioneers Health Foundation and should continue to be accomplished through that particular part of the organization.

J.H. SHERIDAN



Question 1: I am a long-time member of the Meeker community and believe the services of the Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Services District (HSD) are remarkable and important for the citizens of the HSD. I have

served on two professional boards (White River Electric Association [2002 - 2014] and Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association [2009 - 2014]) where I earned the "Credentialed Cooperative Director" and "Board Leadership" certificates. I have and am currently serving on multiple volunteer boards. I have 21 years of Banking experience and 9 years of Office Management / Accounting experience. I have a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Denver.

Full disclosure: I have cousins and a cousin-in-law who are currently employed by the district, and a cousin who is an incumbent candidate for this board. I was employed by the district as a Staff Accountant (2005 - 2006) and left on good terms. My current employer supplies power to the HSD. I have no legal issues with the HSD.

Question 2: I believe the HSD is moving in the right direction. The services offered by the HSD are beneficial to the citizens of the HSD as well as populations from outside the HSD.

Question 3: One concern is the HSD's continued success to attract and retain quality and qualified personnel. With the increased competition for medical related employees, the HSD must remain competitive in the compensation and work environment areas. Exploration of enhanced and varying compensation packages and work environments will lead to the HSD's success in attracting and retaining employees.

Another concern is the increasing and complex health care regulations continually being implemented. The HSD must remain fully compliant with these regulations to assure maximum reimbursement. To address this concern, I think it is important for the HSD to have adequate resources, both internal personnel and external consultation. Another concern is to assure the financial viability of the HSD remains positive and strong. Intense budgeting, analysis, and monitoring are required in this area. Peer comparisons, ratio analysis, and trends should be closely monitored by financial personnel and the Board.

Question 4: The Board is accountable to the Health Service District and the citizens of the Health Service District.

Question 5: I generally am not in support of the open bidding process as the bid contents are not kept confidential and may disclose trade secrets and other bidder confidential information. I

think the HSD must provide a comprehensive, thorough bid request package and ask for sealed bids.

Question 6: Information from executive sessions should not be shared outside of executive sessions.

Question 7: Communication and transparency issues, either real or perceived, always seem to be issues in most organizations. Good board meeting agendas and minutes are very important for both communication and transparency. I would like to see the HSD website enhanced to contain all public related documents (governance, agendas, minutes, resolutions, audits, budgets, etc.).

Question 8: My preference is a 7-member board. I do acknowledge that there are multiple special districts in this area that function quite well with a 5-member board. A 7-member board has more input and points-of-view.

Question 9: I hope it is never easy for anyone to manipulate or control any board. To eliminate or reduce the possibility of the board being manipulated, the board members must understand the issue, identify options, discuss the pros and cons, ask questions, perform research, and devote sufficient time to the issue. This process will reduce / eliminate the possibility for manipulation and/or control.

Question 10:

I'm sure the need for additional construction has been the result of decisions made that will improve the HSD and that significant analysis has been directed towards the funding of the additional construction. It will be important to analyze future construction requests and associated funding requirements and sources.

Question 11: It is important to examine the turnover rates at comparable, peer organizations to determine where this HSD ranks. The board will need to analyze the ranking, determine the appropriate rate, and take appropriate action. For elevated turnover rates, research and analysis will need to be performed to determine the factors leading to the higher rates.

Question 12: Honesty: always tell the truth and expect / demand others to tell the truth. Transparency: As a board member, I would always be willing to answer questions and provide non-confidential information as requested. I always encourage citizens of the HSD to attend board meetings and get their questions answered.

Question 13: I think it would be important for the board, management, staff, and citizens to determine the appropriate level of community involvement and assistance. Once the proper level and types are determined, resources should be budgeted to support these levels of community involvement and assistance.



TODD SHULTS (incumbent)

In my last four years of being on the Pioneers Medical Center Board I'm

proud to have Becker recognize PMC as one of the 27 critical hospitals, along with upgrading the CAT scanner equipment. As well as adding a new MRI office. I am very proud to finally have a pharmacy at PMC.

I am also very grateful and proud of our staff at PMC for being awarded over \$500,000 in grant funding. This has helped us tremendously in many different areas of the hospital. I would love to have another four years on

this board, I am once again asking for your vote. Being re-elected would be very honoring and I would continue to improve and help our local hospital to become the best that it can be to serve our community.

Candidate Q&A: ERBM Recreation & Park District

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | SiX candidates are running for three seats on ERBM Recreation & Park District's board this election cycle. As an in-person forum was not possible due to scheduling conflicts, the *HT* provided an online survey for readers to submit questions and have included those here, as well. Candidate responses are in no particular order below, laid out as space allows.

WHAT WE ASKED:

1. What do we need to know about you? (brief bio, board experience, potential conflicts of interest ... e.g. current or past employment of self or family members, business connections, legal issues with the district, etc.)
2. In your opinion, is the district moving in the right direction or the wrong direction for the Meeker community and why?
3. What are the 3 biggest concerns you have for the district and what ideas would you bring to the board to address those concerns?
4. To whom is the board accountable?

WHAT YOU ASKED:

These questions were submitted anonymously through an online survey in lieu of an in-person forum.

5. What is the priority for the Meeker trail system in regard to future maintenance and expansion?
6. With a budget crisis looming, do you support reducing the number of department heads and restricting salary increases?

VICKY EDWARDS



1) I'm a Meeker native and graduated from MHS and Mesa University. My parents, Bob and Laurette Sikes, owned the Night Owl for many years, now known as Ol Crow's. After college my husband and I moved to Texas. I worked in

banking while continuing to pursue my legal education, obtaining my degree as a Certified Paralegal. In the 90's I became a VP of a large bank in Texas. After several years, we moved to Northwest Arkansas where I became VP of Arkansas National Bank. Eventually, I was able to utilize my degree as a paralegal and joined my

husband at his law office. After we raised our two children, we made the decision to semi-retire in Meeker. I was blessed to become the Paralegal to the Rio Blanco County Attorney. My husband, Jay, is a retired lawyer. He serves as the Meeker Town Judge and is a Rec Coordinator for the Rec Center, teaching karate and other sports. I enjoy helping him with many of his activities as a Rec Center Volunteer. 2) I believe previous Boards have moved in the directions they deemed best for the circumstances presented to them. I think it will be imperative to focus on the viability of the ERBM which must include projections and strategies to address long term revenue declines. The state and the federal government have implemented policies and regulations that will continue to limit monies flowing into RBC. I have

witnessed firsthand strategic planning that has taken place at a County level to prepare for decreased revenues, which can be implemented immediately to help ensure the rec center will be around for future generations.

3) I'm concerned that due to the current economic climate, youth and community activities are in danger of being eliminated. My goal is to prevent ERBM from being nothing more than a building with exercise equipment and a pool. In order to prevent this from happening I believe the district must: a) work to increase revenue brought in by programming and community events; b) greatly reduce, and/or eliminate monies spent whereby the district does not realize a direct return on investment; c) reduce the number of management personnel and/or increase and combine manager's duties; d)

freeze or postpone capital expenditures and projects that aren't necessary for the daily operation of the recreation center.

4) This Board is accountable to the taxpayers of the ERBM Special District, community partners, Rec Center employees and volunteers, and most importantly the citizens, parents and youth who utilize the services and programs offered by ERBM. 5) The focus should be on maintenance of the existing trail system rather than expansion at this time.

6) While it is imperative to have crucial leadership and management roles filled by fairly compensated individuals, it will be imperative that the incoming Board review existing staffing models and job descriptions to provide staff with the direction to best meet the challenges of a decreased budget for future years.

TYLER FRYE



1. A new transplant to Meeker, Colorado, I am proud to call this amazing gateway to outdoor recreation home. My family loves to camp, ride bikes, and make the most of Meeker's robust park and recreational opportunities. I

have recently been asked to help revitalize and steer the local Mountain Bike club (MAMBA) as well as coordinate between different entities on new single-track trail building and maintenance. I have experience founding and managing non-profit entities such as acting as President of the Bookcliff Home Brew Club and developing user-centric events and fundraising opportunities. I have experience writing and managing Grants while finding diverse funding options for non-profit groups I have participated in.

2. I believe the Recreation District provides essential outdoor and indoor opportunities to work out, play, and exercise. I think the Recreation Department has done an amazing job providing recreational resources to our community. However, a looming budget shortage will require us to investigate new resource management options and explore unique fundraising opportunities to not just sustain our current operational costs but expand new recreational activities.

3. My three biggest concerns for the recreation district's future are fiscal responsibility, maintaining the current level of operational opportunities and generating recreational activities that will drive tourism and support local businesses. As a board member, I will investigate next-generation energy cost-saving technologies such as geothermal and solar. I will work diligently to promote more tourism-attracting activities that will support local

businesses and bring much-needed tax revenue. I will also work with current staff members, members of the community, and visitors to our community to make sure our Rec District is providing and implementing meaningful activities that support the wellness of our communities health and interest.

4. As a board member, I will make sure we are accountable to the public, our employees, and local business. I want public and Rec employee feedback to be a major driver of the board's actions and decisions. Our job is to facilitate reasonable management plans and smart action steps to continue the long-term survival of the Recreation District while keeping the Recreation programs in line with community needs. These factors are dependent on community feedback who we as the board represent diligently.

5. The Meeker trail system represents a unique outdoor recreation opportunity for

hikers, bikers, and walkers. Our town has a large population of mountain bike enthusiasts and hikers, which use the trails daily when weather permits. The trails also offer an expanding tourism market in Western Colorado that drives millions of dollars for local businesses. Meeker's hunting, outdoor, and fishing-focused economy is primed to benefit from tapping other growing tourism markets. By expanding out single track trails we create a new revenue stream and attraction for visitors to our beautiful region.

6. The staff of the recreation department represents highly talented individuals that are already stretched thin and working hard to keep so many functions and activities afloat. I think we should consider other cost cutting avenues and fund-generating options before we start cutting jobs and benefits to our hard working staff and community members.

AARON GRIMES



1. My wife, Sarah, and I moved to Meeker in 2006 and call this town our home along with our daughter Skylar and son Rylan. My career is based in managing public lands recreation programs. I've worked for the BLM in Meeker

managing their recreation program for several years and about four years ago accepted the Recreation Manager position with the Forest Service on the Blanco Ranger District. My family and I have experienced the recreation and park district in a variety of ways making it one of the most important aspects to our quality of life. I'm either in their gym or on their trails most

days year-round. I've volunteer coached many seasons, my family enjoys numerous programs and parks each year, and I've partnered with the district as well.

2. I believe the district continues to move in the right direction. The employees continue to meet a high standard by providing outstanding communities amenities, great service and programing, and well-maintained facilities.

3. I think some of the biggest concerns the district is currently facing are tied together. These include trying to develop a balanced budget over the next few years, maintaining current levels of programing, and maintaining current parks and facilities. This is a new challenge for the district and it's important for the community to be a part of this conversation.

4. The board is accountable to the district's citizens/taxpayers who elect them and fund the district. The board is responsible for all aspects of the district's administration, operations, finances, and policies. I believe the board is also accountable to the district employees by, through policy and direction, setting them up for success, developing a positive work environment, and making strategic decisions they can effectively execute.

5. The Meeker Trails have become an important part of community wellness over the past several years in a variety of ways. The district's parks that are currently part of the trails system, mainly Jensen Memorial Park, are mostly built-out and well developed. I think it's an important district priority to maintain those investments. I

also think the district should continue to partner on trail expansion on non-district lands, but only in a fiscally responsible manner.

6. If I were to become a new incoming board member, I would not support reducing the number of department heads. With budget issues in mind, I think it's the board's responsibility to examine funding tied to personnel costs. It seems likely that the future board will be analyzing the existing organizational charts, employee benefits, attrition/retirements, duties, and overall personnel costs. These employees are the heart and soul of the district that directly deliver outstanding benefits, services, and opportunities to our community. My priority is to support them the best a board member can.

KIM KENDALL



1. I am humbled and excited to be running for election to the ERBM Recreation and Park District Board of Directors. I believe I can help the ERBM Recreation and Park District meet the needs of our community through direct community

input and dedication to beneficial programing. I would like to represent the interests of the citizens of Meeker, and believe I am in a great place to do so. Having worked with the county, the high school and the recreation district for the past 24 years, I have extensive experience interacting directly with our community members. I feel that over those years I have cultivated an open and approachable mindset, and believe that many community members feel comfortable communicating their interests and desires for the future of the

recreation district with me.

2. I feel like the district is moving in the right direction when it comes to trying to meet the needs of our community. I have witnessed the process used to keep programs with more than 5 in attendance running smoothly. I would question the capital projects in the last 6 years, when spending should have been minimized.

3. I would aim to ensure responsible spending by the recreation district and, most importantly, accountability to the people of this community. A direct link to those who are most impacted by the offerings and programs of the ERBM Recreation and Park District would benefit all.

Quality programming is another focus of mine. I feel blessed that my children were able to benefit from the various programs the recreation district has to offer and I'm further honored to have worked for this district and witnessed the impact the programs have on

both our youth and adults. This may arguably be the aspect of the recreation district that benefits our community the most, by bringing people together, giving our children a safe place to learn and grow, and encouraging connections that will last beyond a weeks-long program. To this point, I think it is most important that quality programs continue at the ERBM Recreation and Park District, and will push to ensure the appropriate funding and staffing is available to do so.

4. The board is accountable to the constituents of the community. A board member is also a partner to the executive director of the organization. As a board member you have a legal commitment and responsibility to the organization therefore you must take financial and legal oversight seriously.

5. I have utilized the Meeker trails a little since its completion in 2012. While it is an asset to the community, I fear that future maintenance will come at a cost. I do not put an expansion to the trails as a top priority at a

time when we should be preserving cash.

6. Organizations implement reductions in force to preserve cash and/or balance a budget. So first, consider whether there are other, less drastic, ways to do so. This should be a last resort after every other alternative is considered up front. Management and above are high in numbers and I would not oppose a reduction or salary freeze as a last resort. At ERBM, it is very important to preserve the hourly wage employees and their pay increases. I would do my best to work through this process along with a committed executive director and board of directors.

We must maintain and value our way of life in Meeker, where community means a lot more than just a place to live. I think the ERBM Recreation and Park District is where many find that "more", and I want to ensure it continues to be a benefactor to that way of life by listening to our people and embracing our valuable programs.

HOW TO VOTE:

IF YOU RECEIVED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, YOU CAN MAIL IT IN OR DELIVER TO THE DROP BOX AT THE REC CENTER FRONT DESK.

***** IN PERSON ONLY *****

**TUESDAY, MAY 3RD, 2022 ~ 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.
FAIRFIELD CENTER, 200 MAIN STREET, MEEKER**

ERIC KNEZ



1. I am a native of Colorado and have called Meeker my home now for 4 years after taking a career advancement at Deserado Mine. I have been a coal miner for 32 years and previously worked at 20-Mile Mine. The last 5 years at the 20-

Mile Mine I was responsible for an annual figure budget within my department. I am currently the maintenance director of Deserado Mine where I am responsible for maintenance over the diesel shop as well as mine maintenance planning. I also assist the maintenance superintendent with duties and budget.

2. I believe the District responds to the

varying community needs. The District provides a great service for the local community as well as neighboring towns. The District, along with BLM, maintains both PDJ and the trail system, which is a great way for enthusiasts to enjoy the outdoors with hiking and biking and brings others to our community as well. The District provides a variety of programs, activities and special events, as highlighted in the Line-Up, which I believe brings our community together. However, I believe there may be alternatives (ideas, partnerships, volunteers) to maintain and improve our parks.

3. With the rising costs of inflation, naturally the District cannot be stagnate and I feel needs to offset the burden by raising the cost of program and membership fees, keeping in mind the District offers scholarships and reduced rates for programs. In order to retain full time positions the

District needs to be the "employer of choice". Employees are the biggest asset with any business. The District needs to continue to offer comparative pay and benefits for employee retention. Seeking alternative financial means for non-scheduled Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and educating the community regarding decisions made around non-scheduled CIP is necessary.

4. The board is accountable to the entire community. They are responsible to make good sound decisions and to be fiscally responsible to our tax payers.

5. Annually, the District promotes and contributes to National Public Lands Day, improving/building new trails. Because of our proximity between Steamboat and Fruita (mountain biking communities), work with MAMBA and other organiza-

tions to design trail events around existing Meeker activities. I believe maintaining and improving the trails take equal precedence to maintaining the rec center infrastructure, continuing to offer premier programs, activities, special events, and maintaining parks.

6. I believe that salaries need to be monitored and adjustments made accordingly that are reflected in a wage compensation plan. There are always ways to job share/cross train. The question, in my mind, is difficult to answer as "department head" is not clearly defined. Currently there is an Executive Director, Human Resource Administrator, and 3 managers overseeing 5 divisions. In a recent board meeting that I attended, the board voted that any full-time employee position that leaves the District must be approved by the board before being replaced. I stand by that decision.

JOHN STRATE (incumbent)



1. I am currently a teacher at Meeker High School, as well as a real estate agent. I was born and raised in Meeker. I earned my bachelor's degree from Western State College in Gunnison and my master's degree from Colorado Mesa University. I taught in Canon City, Colorado before moving back to Meeker. I have been teaching for 19 years in Meeker. My wife of 23 years is also a teacher. Both of my

boys grew up in Meeker as well. My oldest son Christopher is attending Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah, and my youngest son Carter is attending Colorado School of Mines in Golden. I am nearing the end of my first term on the board. Previous board experience includes 8 years as a trustee for the Town of Meeker. I was employed by the district many years ago as a lifeguard when I was in high school. I have no conflict of interests between my professional life and my service on the board.

2. In my opinion the district is moving in the right direction for the Meeker Community. In spite of reduced revenues the district is an active member of the community. We have a state of the art recreational center, thanks to the voters and taxpayers of Rio Blanco County. We are fulfilling our responsibility to maintain this facility and ensure it continues to meet the needs of users. We offer programming for a variety of age groups and interests, and have partnered with the Town of Meeker to make our parks a top tier attraction for both residents and visitors. Although budget restrictions have and will continue to limit what we can do and have led to our fiscal contributions decreasing, we continue to partner with other entities to take Meeker in a direction we can all be proud of.

3. 1) Revenues-It is well known that the Special Districts in our community are losing revenue due to a decrease in fossil fuel activity in the area.

2) Long term financial viability-Although our reserves remain strong, they won't hold out forever. I would like to make sure that the district can continue to meet the needs of taxpayers for many years to come.

3) Deciding on the appropriate financial approach-The board has some decisions to make. Do we want to continue spending our reserves? If so, at what rate? Should we stop spending reserves all together?

My approach to all three of these very similar concerns is that we need to find balance.

4. The board is accountable to the voters.

5. The trail system is at a point at which the majority of the maintenance should be completed by the public. The district has partnered with the BLM and public on Public Lands Day to complete trail work. This should certainly continue. Before Covid hit The Meeker Area Mountain Bike Association (MAMBA) was also doing some work on the trails. This included weed spraying and general trail maintenance. These projects need to continue. The section of the trails that is on ERBM property should continue to be maintained by the district.

As far as future expansion is concerned, I believe the district can be an active partner in going after grant funds and acting as a fiduciary agent if necessary, but I would be against contributing funds to a trail expansion until revenues change.

6. I support reducing the number of employees at every level as shown by the recent hiring freeze the board approved. Department heads should not be exempt from this. I believe this needs to be done through attrition. With the amount of money we have in reserves currently I feel like a reduction in staff that is forced would be premature. I would also like to point out that in the last four years our personnel budget has basically stayed the same. Considering the annual increases in benefits, both health insurance and PERA, this is no small feat. We have also given performance based raises the last

four years. The district has cut back considerably through attrition to this point, and will continue to do so. The important thing for the public to understand is that at some point there will be noticeable change to programs and services offered by the district. It is not fair to the employees of the district to expect them to keep doing more with less.

In regards to a salary freeze, this is a tough question. With

inflation at the highest point it has been in 40 years, a salary freeze equates to a cut in pay for staff. While I understand our 10 year budget projection looks dire at current spending levels, I also choose to be an optimist. I think our current revenue situation has the potential to change. At this point I can not support a salary freeze for staff. I recognize that this is potentially on the table for the future, but right now is too early.

RIBBON CUTTING ...



COURTESY PHOTO

Trailhead Cabins and Lodging celebrated an Open House and Ribbon Cutting event to showcase the new renovations to the hotel and cabins and the addition of the Trailhead Lounge. They were Biz of the Month with the Chamber of Commerce and hosted a drawing for \$50 in Chamber Bucks and a night's stay. Pictured here are Kris Deines, with Trailhead Cabins and Lodging, Stephanie Kobald and Emily Mohr with the Chamber of Commerce, and guests who attended.

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State plans additional resources for wildfire season

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

RBC | On Friday April 22, Governor Polis, Senate President Fenberg and state fire officials at the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) announced new legislation on wildfire response.

The new legislation would provide \$15 million to add to the state's aviation resources available for wildfire response. The funds would allow for the extension of Colorado's current large air tanker contract, a contract for a second large air tanker, as well as two additional Type 1 helicopters, or other aviation resources

as situations and resource availability dictate.

The legislation would also include funding for the Division to implement Colorado Fire Commission recommendation 21-01 which calls for the Division to establish a statewide, 24/7, fire dispatch and coordination center for rapid deployment and tracking of fire based

resources. This center will support local, state and federal partner agencies in dispatching firefighting resources to fires and other emergencies more quickly and efficiently when responding to incidents that exceed local capabilities, on a year round basis.

"Being in Colorado's fire service for more than 30 years, I have seen the evolution of wildfire; the number, intensity, complexity, and impacts of wildfires in Colorado have grown exponentially, and will continue to worsen," said DFPC Director Mike

Morgan. "We no longer have a fire season as it has evolved into a fire year, this dispatch center along with the additional aviation resources will greatly enhance our capacity to battle these fires thereby saving lives and property."

From 2012 through 2022, Colorado had an average of 5,507 fires and 221,661 acres burned per year across all land ownerships.

"This funding will increase the State's capacity to support our local partners; helping reduce the potential for large, costly, and

catastrophic fires which are now occurring on a year round basis," said Morgan. "Not only will the expanded fleet of firefighting aviation resources be an additional resource for aggressive and early initial attack on wildfires, but can also support suppression efforts on larger, longer duration wildfires."

If you missed the Wildfire Outlook and Preparedness Plan press conference on Friday, watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slwkyJJSwfA>

Call 811 before you dig

PRESS RELEASE
Special to the Herald Times

RBC | Atmos Energy is reminding everyone — homeowners and professional excavators alike — to call 811 before any excavation project. Digging without knowing the location of underground utilities can result in disruptions to critical services, serious injuries and costly repairs to underground utility lines. It is simple and easy to make a free request online or over the phone before digging.

A survey of homeowners conducted by Common Ground Alliance recently revealed that 58% of American homeowners personally plan to complete a home improvement project that involves digging in the next 12 months — and 49% will take a risk by not contacting 811 beforehand. The most popular planned projects among surveyed homeowners who plan to dig include planting a tree or shrub, building a fence, building a deck or patio, installing a mailbox or installing a pool.

Atmos Energy encourages homeowners to take a few precautionary measures when planning a digging project this spring:

- Always contact 811 a few days before digging, regardless of depth or familiarity with the property.

- Plan ahead. Make a free 811 request on Monday or Tuesday for work planned for an upcoming weekend, providing ample time for the approximate location of lines to be marked.

- Confirm that all lines have been marked.

- Consider moving the location of your project if it is near utility line markings.

- If a contractor has been hired, confirm that the contractor has contacted 811. Don't allow work to begin if the lines are not marked.

- Visit 811beforeyoudig.com for complete information.

Everyone who contacts 811 a few days before digging is connected to a local one-call notification center that will take the caller's information and communicate it to local utility companies. Professional locators will then visit the dig site to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines with spray paint, flags or both. Once a site has been accurately marked, it is safe to begin digging around the marked areas.

OBITUARY

Anna Lou Fortik

Oct. 30, 1943 ~ April 13, 2022

Mrs. Anna Lou Fortik, daughter of Hazel McCoy and Daniel Robertson, was born on Oct. 30, 1943, in East Chicago, Indiana. Anna spent her childhood in Mineral Wells, Texas, and Burlington, Colorado. She graduated from Steamboat Springs High School in 1961 and was united in holy matrimony on May 28, 1961, to Donald (Dean) Fortik.



Anna Fortik

Anna peacefully went home to be with her Lord and Savior at 7:40 a.m. on April 13, 2022.

Anna is survived by her husband Dean, their two children Wesley and Kari Fortik, Teresa and

Randy Spivey, and five grandchildren (Megan Danielson, Holly Wilmot, David Spivey, Joshua Spivey, and Kathryn Newton) and five great-grandchildren.

Anna enjoyed laughing and playing with all of her

grandkids, riding horses with the Meeker, Colorado, drill team, and spending countless hours with her favorite four-legged companion, Frosty. Anna also delighted in playing bridge with her many friends. She will be missed by all, but especially by her best friend and husband for 61 years.

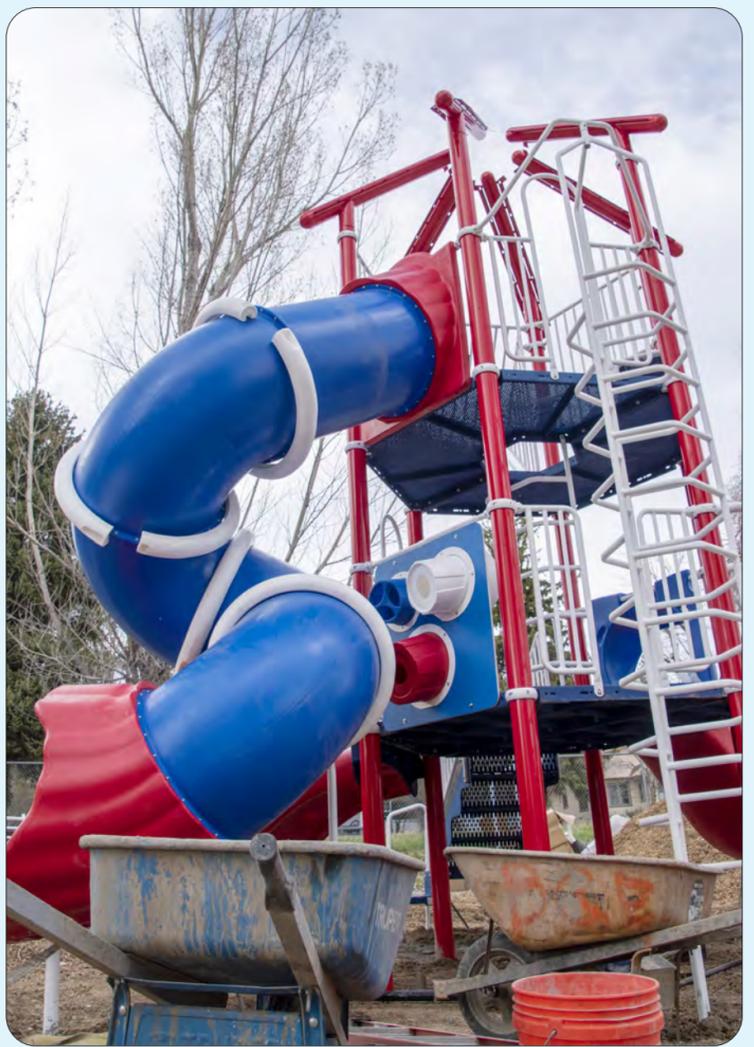
A Celebration of Life will be held May 1, 2022, 11 a.m. at Brown's Funeral Chapel located at 904 N. 7th St., Grand Junction.

Her obituary page can be found on Brown's Cremation and Funeral Service's website.

OBITUARY POLICY:

We choose 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 would like to donate to help cover the cost of obituary publication, please visit <https://bit.ly/3JWE0jl>. If you need to submit an obituary or death notice, please stop by the office or email editor@theheraldtimes.com

PLAYGROUND PREP ...



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTO

The new playground at the Admin Building in Meeker is taking shape.

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SPORTS & REC

RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES | Thursday, April 28, 2022

Panther baseball goes 4-0 in week 7

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I The Rangely Panthers baseball team secured four wins last week in doubleheaders against Aspen and Cedaredge. In the home

double-header against Aspen the Panthers were able to secure a game one win in five innings with a score of 16-2. Senior Keihlin Myers picked up his third win on the season from the mound as he went five innings while scatter-

ing four hits with six strikeouts and two walks. Myers only surrendered two runs on the day, with only one of the two runs being recorded as an earned run.

Offensively, the Panthers were led by senior Byron Mackay with three hits in four at-bats and all three hits were doubles. Mackay also recorded three RBIs on the day. Sophomore Dalton LeBleu also added two doubles in the game for the Panthers. Junior Kevin Wren slugged one triple and drove in five RBIs in the game to lead the Panthers. Myers also added a triple and two walks while scoring twice for the Panthers.

The Panthers continued their hot hitting into game two as the Panthers jumped out to a 12-2 score through four innings. The Skiers used timely hits along with walks to score nine runs in the top of the fifth inning to avoid the 10-run mercy rule. The Skiers scored 18 runs in three innings to make the game 18-16 in

favor of the Skiers going into the bottom of the seventh inning. Facing a loss, the Panther hitters came through huge in the bottom of the seventh to defeat the Skiers 19-18.

The comeback began when senior Brent Cantrell was hit in the elbow with a pitch. Freshman Marcos Quintana then flew out to centerfield for the first out of the inning. LeBleu then popped out to the pitcher on the very next pitch. With two outs, sophomore Kobey Chism roped a single to left field putting Panther runners on first and second base with two outs. Kevin Wren then stepped into the box and took the first pitch for strike one, and then Wren drove a line drive into right-centerfield for a triple that scored Cantrell and Chism to tie the game up. The Skiers tried to throw Wren out at third base to end the inning, but the ball skipped away from the third basemen, and this allowed Wren to move up on the error and score the winning run for the Panthers. The win put the Panthers record at 7-5 overall and 0-0 in league play.

The Panthers then traveled to Cedaredge on Saturday to open Western Slope League play for the two teams. In game

The Panthers are now 9-5 overall and 2-0 in the Western Slope League. They will play the Caol Ridge Titans May 2 and will travel to Meeker May 4 for one game against the Cowboys.

MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

one, Myers toed the rubber again for the Panthers and in a very dominating fashion, struck out 10 Bruin hitters while walking none. Myers had a 78% strike ratio in the outing. Junior Luis Quintana led the Panthers offense with three hits in four at-bats and he also scored one run. Mackay and LeBleu also helped the Panther offense with two hits each and three RBIs between the two. The Panthers were able to end the game early in the sixth inning with a 12-2 score courtesy of the 10-run mercy rule.

Senior Justin Cudo picked up his second win of the season in game two against the Bruins for the Panthers as he pitched five strong innings while striking out seven and walking two. Cudo gave up three runs with only one run being an earned run in his outing. Wren came in for relief of Cudo and threw one and two-thirds innings for the Panthers. Wren surrendered four runs, all earned in his outing but threw effectively for the Panthers to hang on for the win 11-7.

The win pushed the Panthers to 9-5 overall and 2-0 in the Western Slope League. Rangely and Cedaredge are the only two teams for the WSL to face each other so far and have the games count for league. The Panthers will face the Coal Ridge Titans on Monday, May 2 for their next game at home in Rangely and then they will travel to Meeker on Wednesday, May 4 for a one game league match-up with the Cowboys.



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Personal records set in busy week for Meeker track

BY TIFFANY JEHOREK

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Last week was busy and packed full of meets for the Meeker Cowboy track team. Tuesday the pole vaulters attended the High Country Pole Vault meet in West Grand where Aspen Merrifield and Owen Hanneman both had superior performances and secured good positions for making it to state in pole vault this year. Merrifield and Hanneman both vaulted all time personal records over the weekend, Merrifield 8 feet 10 inches and Hanneman 10' 7".

The rest of the team got in two full meets between the JV meet Wednesday, varsity in Coal Ridge Friday and then the whole team Saturday in Rangely.

The Coal Ridge meet started out with good weather but it turned in the afternoon just as the discus finals were set to begin.

Placing in the top three at the Coal Ridge Invitational were:

Reese Clatterbaugh, Triple Jump, third place and right now it looks like this

will be a state qualifying jump.

Merrifield first in Pole Vault

Hailey Knowles first in discus with a personal record of 113 feet 6 inches.

Coal Ridge as a school sits above Meeker in both size and classification and the competition at the meet was tough, but the tough competition means the kids are getting used to competing against times similar to what they will see at state.

"We are still working the kids pretty tough in practice," commented co-head coach Hallie Blunt, "As a coaching staff we have met and gone through the times and will make some adjustments as well as fill our relays. The kids will start to taper off in their practices next week before our league meet and start getting ready for the final push of the season."

The Rangely Invitational followed Saturday and as a team the boys finished third and the girls finished fourth.

Placing in the top three were:

The men's 4x800 meter relay finished third and it was only the second time the



Cowboys have run this race this year

In the 4x100 meter relay the mens and womens both finished second.

Sarah Kracht and Brendan Clatterbaugh each had excellent 200 meter runs, Kracht finished second and Brendan finished third.

Dayton Ridgeway placed once again in the top three in long jump, this time in

second and is looking strong at making it to state.

The throwers had a good showing again, Zach Eskelson took first in shot put while Judd Harvey took third, and Knowles placed second in discus and has now placed in each and every meet she has competed in as well as this week she pr'd on both Friday and Saturday.

This week the Cowboys

COURTESY PHOTO

The Cowboys will travel to Craig tomorrow for the Moffat County Invitational.

travel to Craig for the Moffat County Invitational on Friday. They will host Thursday pole vaulting for this meet at Starbuck Stadium.

MHS girls' golf plays links style Eagle Ranch course

BY TIFFANY JEHOREK

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Meeker High School girls' golf played Eagle Ranch Monday, the first time for the girls on this team. The links style course is challenging with numerous bunkers, native grass and water.

"We had a great time at Eagle Ranch," said head coach Amanda Back. "It was an adventure on this links style course and the girls did great."

Vivian Brown, who

shot a 118, and Hailey Knowles, who shot a 127, played individual and Avere Woodard, Aiyana McCook, Gracie Blagg and Haley Blaisdell played in the scramble.

"They are improving," said Back. "They are hitting the ball more solid and have been putting a whole lot better as well. The ladies who played in the scramble enjoyed seeing and experiencing a new course."

The team has a bit of a break before they head to Bookcliff Golf Course in Grand Junction on May 16.



(Left to right) Aiyana McCook, Vivian Brown, Haley Blaisdell, coach Amanda Back, Gracie Blagg, Avere Woodard, Hailey Knowles.

COURTESY PHOTO

Rangely Panther track team hosts annual meet

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I The Rangely Panther track team hosted its annual track meet on Saturday, April 23. There were 11 teams from the area that came to compete. Even though the weather wasn't ideal, the Panthers were able to set new personal records or season records.

"It is always nice to run at home. We have the nicest facility around so it is nice to show it off," said Coach Beth Scoggins. The girls and boys team both took second behind Cedaredge.

The meet started off with field events: girls' triple jump, boys' long jump, girls' high jump, boys' discus and girls' shot put. The athletes made a good showing in these events. Mary Scoggins took second in the triple jump (33-5.25) while Miah Wren took seventh (28-7.75). In the boys' long jump Fisher Winder took third (18-3). Others competing in long jump were Aydan Christian (16-5), Anthony Dorris (16-5), Justin Allred (14-2) and Robert Murray (12-2). In girls' high jump Annika Cantrell took second (4-7) with Kastyn Dembowski

right behind her with third (4-7) for a new personal best. In boys' discus Kenyon Cochrane had a new PR (149) and a first place. Joseph Admas threw (73-8), a new PR. In the girls' shot put Rangely was well represented with Kyrah Phelps taking third (30-5.5), Makenzie Manchester seventh (29-1), Rylee Allred eighth place (27-9) and Brooke Filfred (23-4).

On the track the girls' sprint medley took first place with Hayley Burr, Ryann Mergelman, Ashlynn Ducey, and M.Scoggins. Next on the track was Burr in the 100 hurdles where she took third (17.44) for a new PR. The 100-meter dash was next with Laurie Ward (17.35), Timothy Scoggins (12.19) and Murray (15.01) all earning new PRs. The girls 4x200 relay with Wren, Mergelman, Dembowski and Ducey took third place (1:57.62). The 1,600-meter run was on the track next with Macy Morgan running a (7:12.81). For the boys it was a close race between second and third both being Panthers and setting new PRs. Andrew Dorris took second (4:48.59) while James Talbot took third

(4:49.30). Colton Noel had a good race also with 5:28.53.

After lunch the field events continued with the boys' triple jump, girls' long jump, boys' high jump, girls' discus and boys' shot put. Fisher Winder took fourth in the triple jump (36-3.25), Anthony Dorris took seventh (33-7.75). Also jumping were Christian (31-1.75) and Justin Allred (30-7). In the girl's long jump M.Scoggins took first (16-7), while Ducey took fifth (14-8.25). T.Scoggins took fourth (5-7) in high jump. Once again the girl throwers represented well: Phelps took fourth place (99-9), Allred sixth place (97-3), Manchester seventh (71-11), Filfred eighth place (71-11), Cantrell ninth place (67-6). Ward threw a 46-1. For the boys' shot Cochrane took second (38-0.75) and Adams threw a (23-7.5).

Back on the track Ducey took second (1:03.12) and Wren sixth (1:06.31) in the 400-meter dash. Also running the 400 was T.Scoggins who took sixth (56.31). Next up is Burr in the 300 hurdles who took second (51.40). Rangely also took first place in both the girls' and boys' 800-meter run. M.Scoggins

ran a 2:29.35 and Andrew Dorris ran a 2:09.12. Others in the 800 were Morgan (3:20.99), Clay Allred third place (2:18.28), Colton Noel seventh place (2:26.89) and J. Allred (2:30.13). In the 200 a lot of Panthers ran: Burr (28.74) fourth place, Wren (29.12) fourth place, Dembowski (30.32), Mergelman (30.89), Cantrell (32.27), Ward (37.61), Christian (27.30) and Murray (32.49). The last individual race on the track was the 3,200-meter run. Talbot took first with a new PR of 10:47.21.

The meet came to a close with relays. The Panthers put together two 4x400 teams. The first team took fourth place (3:55.92) with T.Scoggins, Anthony Dorris, C.Allred and Andrew Dorris. The second team was Noel, J. Allred, Adams and Talbot who took fifth with a time of 4:20.05. The last race of the day was the coed throwers relay. The Panthers team used a Pringles can as the baton and took third with Cantrell, Adams, Manchester and Cochrane.

The Panthers will be in Hayden at the Clint Well's invitational on Friday, April 30. "I am super proud of all the athletes and how they are progressing. They are a fun group and keep us on our toes," said coach Scoggins.



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

The Panthers set new records on their home turf design less-than-ideal weather conditions.

BMS track brings home ribbons

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Meeker joined seven teams in attending a middle school meet held at the Coal Ridge track on Saturday. The competition was as stiff as the wind, and we had the opportunity to see a largely different group of schools. We still had some successes, and brought home a number of ribbons. Although we do not yet have complete 200-meter dash or medley relay results, we can share other perfor-

mances. Seventh grade girls had Ruth LeBlanc winning shot put, and Kailynn Watson third in that event. The seventh grade boys had Tucker Chinn taking first place in the 100-meter hurdles, and second in the 200-meter hurdles. Aidan Tapia finished in third place in the 800-meter run for the eighth grade boys; Tristin Rollins took second in shot put, and discus had Kai Sjoerdsma in second, and Remy Broussard was third. For the eighth grade girls, Haylee Steele finished sec-

ond in the 1,600-meter run, and Rylee Sullivan was third in the 200-meter hurdles and second place in high jump. Addison Knowles took second place in shot put, and won the discus event. Lilly Newman was first place in the long jump. Sullivan and Knowles were joined by Shailee Rundberg and Jacey Follman for third place in the 4x100 relay, and Emma Bauer joined Follman, Knowles and Rundberg in the 800-meter medley relay, also for third place.



MARTY CASEY PHOTOS

Middle school tracksters attended a windy meet at Coal Ridge High School Saturday.

Cowboys ready for league play

BY TIFFANY JEHOREK
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I It has been a slow and steady couple weeks for Cowboy baseball, but that is slated to pick up this week, the final week before the Cowboys enter league play this weekend.

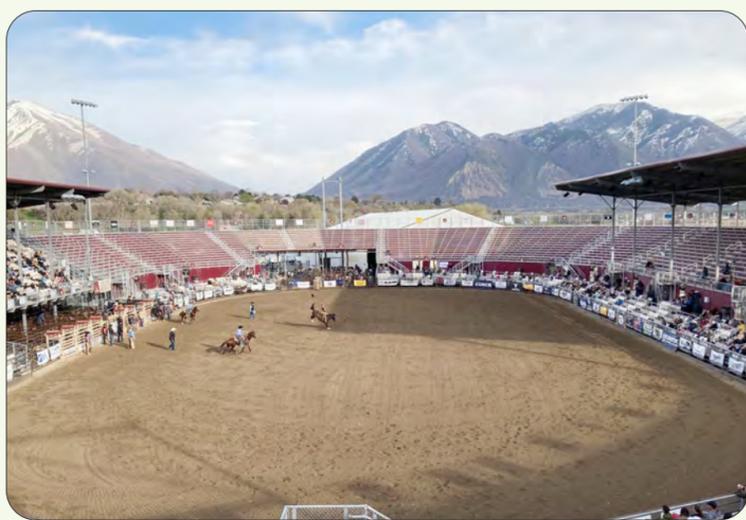
Last week with just one game in Glenwood Springs, they nearly came from behind before ultimately losing by just one, 7-8.

The Demons scored in each of the first four innings before the Cowboys were able to shut them down. Defensively the Cowboys had eight errors that likely cost them the game. Jonathan Fitzgibbons opened the game on the mound pitching

in innings before Liam Deming came in to finish the game, combined they pitched 119 balls.

Offensively Clay Crawford led with three runs, Deming had two and Ryan Sullivan and Trinden Powell each scored one with one stolen base.

This week began with a varsity/JV double header in Basalt where the Cowboys gave up six points in the fourth and only able to answer back with three. Meeker fell 11-4 but will have another chance at the Longhorns this Thursday on their home turf as there is another Basalt varsity/JV double header scheduled for 4 pm with JV to follow.



COURTESY PHOTO

The CNCC rodeo team traveled to Spanish Fork, Utah for the last rodeo of the season.

Rodeo team finishes season

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I "Our CNCC rodeo goal for our last college rodeo of the 2021-2022 year, was for both Sadie Shake and Hadley Gross to make the barrel racing short go-round at the Utah Valley University college rodeo, which was held April 15-16, in Spanish Fork, Utah," said CNCC Rodeo Coach Tammy Olson. Both student athletes and their equine partners ran in the "slack" after the rodeo on Friday.

"Everything was perfect, too. The stadium was absolutely amazing, giving you the feeling of entering a massive Roman movie set. The weather was cool, but no rain. The footing in the ground got better and better, with each barrel run on Friday night. It was all set up for CNCC's two barrel racers to achieve their year-end goal," Olson added.

Gross and "Hubbs" were 17th to run in slack and it was their perfect setup, as the pattern was a long run to the first barrel, exactly how "Hubbs" likes it, as he is the

equine equivalent of 4-wheel drive. They came flying in to the first barrel and had a great turn, then the same for their second and third barrels. They were sitting in sixth place overall, with an 18.20, and we were all cheering. Now the waiting game began, to see if they would qualify for the Top 10 to run on Saturday.

Shake and "Ricky" were 31st out and they made arguably their best run of the entire spring season. Shake rode her game plan and "Ricky" reacted in unison. It was a beautiful, smooth run, with three tight turns. They were a 17.95, and easily in the Top 10 for Saturday. Gross was on the edge of the bubble, and after waiting for the final results she ended up 11th — so close.

In the short go-round Saturday, Shake and "Ricky" had some issues with keeping the barrels up, and 10 seconds in penalties put them out of the running.

"Both Sadie and Hadley had a great rodeo and they both rode really well. As their coach, I was proud of them," Olson said.

HICKENLOOPER VISIT ...



COURTESY PHOTOS

U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper made a stop in Meeker last Wednesday where he heard from community members about topics of concern ranging from supply chain issues to the changing local economy (top) and got a tour of the White River Museum in Meeker from Executive Director Terri Reed (bottom.)



RBC WARRANTY DEEDS DECEMBER 2021 ~ MARCH 2022

DECEMBER 2021

Seller: Michael J Maxwell
Buyer: David W and Kay A Palmer
Description: 3S 100W 17 420 COUNTY RD 28
Transaction Price: \$175,000

Seller: Jodene I Gardner
Buyer: Edmund W and Tracy L Peck
Description: TOWN OF MEEKER 2 105 825 3RD ST
TOWN OF MEEKER 3 105 825 3RD ST
Transaction Price: \$210,000

Seller: JKLM Real Estate LLC
Buyer: Rangely Investments LC
Description: RANGELY RETAIL CENTER SUBDIVISION FILING #2 297080 1A 317 EAST MAIN ST
Transaction Price: \$3,761,165

Seller: Nathan A and Kristol M Urie
Buyer: Jennifer A Lamanski
Description: TAOS LOT CONSOLIDATION 323773 1 903 TAOS DR
Transaction Price: \$230,000

Seller: Tonja L Combs
Buyer: Nicholas G and Kelsey B Riggio
Description: LA MESA PUD 2ND RE-REPLAT 289325 13 4 1230 DESERADO DR
Transaction Price: \$178,000

Seller: Sarah J Griswold
Buyer: Joe Homebuyer
Description: Town of Meeker 14 66 760 5th St
Transaction Price: \$185,000

Seller: William H and Christine R Wills
Buyer: Towon Cortez Jones
Description: SAGEWOOD WEST PHASE I SUBDIVISION 207248 2 4 100 HALFTURN RD
Transaction Price: \$220,000

Seller: David and Karen Arnold
Buyer: Benjamin L and Cynthia L Arnold
Description: 1S 094W 15 4300 COUNTY RD 13
Transaction Price: \$170,000

Seller: Spencer K Shotts
Buyer: Matthew Foster
Description: LA MESA PUD 2ND RE-REPLAT 289325 14 4 1240 DESERADO DR
LA MESA PUD 2ND RE-REPLAT 289325 15 4 1240 DESERADO DR
Transaction Price: \$220,000

Seller: Jose M Villalpando
Buyer: Antoinette Holland
Description: TOWN OF MEEKER 10 93 1149 MAIN ST
Transaction Price: \$10

Seller: Troy Ardell Waldner
Buyer: Erin Geer
Description: MESA SUBDIVISION 73121 11 C 246 MIDDLE ST
Transaction Price: \$165,000

Seller: Estate of Michael Joos
Buyer: John N Anthony
Description: 1N 093W 25 3690 COUNTY RD 6
Transaction Price: \$428,000

Seller: Playa Del Rio LLC
Buyer: Matthew D and Anna K Pickett
Description: WHITE RIVER CONDOMINIUMS 319254 UNIT 3 680 WATER ST
Transaction Price: \$87,500

Seller: Sage Hills II LLC
Buyer: Travis D Adams
Description: SANDERSON HILLS SUBDIVISION 185454 233 VACANT LAND
Transaction Price: \$75,000

Seller: Raymond Angus Price Jr.
Buyer: Raymond Price
Description: SANDERSON HILLS SUBDIVISION 185454 70 1068 LAURIE CIR
Transaction Price: \$145,000

Seller: Town of Rangely
Buyer: RND Properties
Description: WHITE SUBDIVISION 69377 10 B TBD WHITE SUBDIVISION
WHITE SUBDIVISION 69377 11 B TBD WHITE SUBDIVISION
WHITE SUBDIVISION 69377 12 B TBD WHITE SUBDIVISION
Transaction Price: \$22,000

Seller: Town of Rangely
Buyer: Rodger B and Debbie A Polley
Description: LA MESA PUD SUBDIVISION 208675 22 1 TBD LA MESA SUBDIVISION
Transaction Price: \$20,000

Seller: Eli J Serrano
Buyer: National Residential Nominee Services Inc
Description: COLTHARP ADDITION 69772 13 5 724 E RIO BLANCO AVE
COLTHARP ADDITION 69772 14 5 724 E RIO BLANCO AVE
COLTHARP ADDITION 69772 15 5 724 E RIO BLANCO AVE
Transaction Price: \$165,000

Seller: Playa Del Rio LLC
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Transaction Price: \$75,000

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Buyer: Raymond Price
Description: SANDERSON HILLS SUBDIVISION 185454 70 1068 LAURIE CIR
Transaction Price: \$145,000

THE STRIP



Bow Pose

First Steps To Every Pose

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



This pose is called Bow Pose, it will strengthen your lower back and create space through your core.

Come onto your stomach with your arms to your sides and let one side of your face rest against the ground for a moment. With an inhale begin to lift your chest up and engage through your fingertips as you reach your arms back. Bend your knees bringing your feet to your reaching hands. Release a full exhale here in preparation for the final engagement. With your inhale squeeze your thighs towards one another as you press your feet into your hands, lifting your chest away from the floor, bowing backwards through your spine and coming to balance on your lower belly. Hold this position for two to five breath cycles before gently releasing your body to lay flat upon the ground once more.

Options: If full Bow Pose feels too intense in your body you may try laying on your side and bowing one half of your body at a time. You can also simply work on lifting your chest and arms up from a belly down position while keeping your feet pressed into the ground to accomplish a more gentle lower back crunch.

THEME: MOTHER'S DAY ACROSS

1. Wild onion
5. Standardized testing acronym
8. Accounting degree
11. Hunted by hunter
12. Don Johnson's TV role, 1996-2001
13. Run ____ of the law
15. Mercantile establishment
16. Chemistry Nobelist Hahn
17. *Deborah Guarino's "Is Your Mama a ____?"
18. Manner of controlling yourself
20. Tiny bit
21. Willow twig
22. Nutcracker's distinguishing feature
23. Like a longer route?
26. German white wine
30. *Mom's little one
31. Bear the expenses of
34. Knock about
35. Dodge
37. "____ the fields we go"
38. Binary digits code
39. Bear den
40. Northern peat bog
42. Modern address
43. Analyst in a chemical lab
45. Smooth, as in surface of the lake
47. Gangster's pistol
48. Eyelid infections
50. Wafting emanation

52. **Arrangement in Grey and Black, No. 1" portrays this artist's mother
55. Evil one
56. Simmering feeling
57. Prepare for publication
59. Give benediction
60. Heston's foes in 1968 sci-fi movie
61. Boundary
62. Communism or Taoism
63. P in #1 Down
64. Do like a model

DOWN

1. Dashboard acronym
2. Kuwaiti or Saudi
3. *Maman alternative
4. Kaa of "The Jungle Book"
5. French composer Erik Alfred Leslie ____
6. He made his fortune in fur trading
7. *Jord is mom to this hammer-wielding mythic thunder god
8. Chesterfield or ulster
9. Feline-inspired shoe brand
10. ____ mode
12. Not quite a nun
13. Spy's cover
14. *Popular Mother's Day gift
19. Cast somebody there
22. Almond-induced state?
23. Type of monument
24. Pepsi and Coke
25. Tippy purses
26. Actor Wahlberg

27. Loci, sing.
28. #39 Across, pl.
29. *Lorelai Gilmore's mother
32. *How many children does Queen Elizabeth have?

33. Hi-____
36. *Daenerys Targaryen's "babies"
38. End of a shoelace
40. **How I ____ Your Mother"
41. Knights' breastplates

44. Gridiron measure, pl.
46. In the Land of Nod
48. Guillermo del Toro's "The ____ of Water"
49. *Amy Chua's "Battle Hymn of the ____ Mother"
50. Rembrandt's paints
51. Regard

52. Sandwich alternative
53. Edible root of taro plant
54. Semis
55. Hoover's agency
58. Casual attire

CROSSWORD										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11				12			13	14		
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
23	24	25				26		27	28	29
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	50	51						53	54	
55						56			57	58
59						60			61	
62						63			64	

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

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.

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I find cookbooks tasty.

CARS

hardcover **paperback**

first edition **bookseller** **5** **6** **librarian**

2 **3** **4**

7 **8** **9**

publisher **editor** **10** **11** **12**

Newbery **author** **illustrator**

I warm up with sports books. **you**

Caldecott

Dragons

Earthling to Martians! Check out great science fiction books at our libraries.

8. person who helps authors and illustrators improve their work

9. thinks up and writes the story

10. yearly award for best American picture book for children

11. most important person reading

12. prints, binds and markets books

Ideas spring to life in books! **Books are fun to share with friends!**

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle about books:

1. book from the first set that was printed
2. draws the pictures to help the story come alive
3. yearly award for best American children's book
4. helps you find lots of different books
5. sells copies of a book to readers
6. strong binding that can protect the book
7. soft, less costly binding, often made of thick paper
8. person who helps authors and illustrators improve their work
9. thinks up and writes the story
10. yearly award for best American picture book for children
11. most important person reading
12. prints, binds and markets books

What Kinds of Books?



Mystery Dog can find out anything! He wants to let kids know what kinds of books they can find at the library to borrow. **Three letters** of the alphabet are mysteriously missing from the words in Mystery Dog's list. **Can you help him by filling in the blanks with the missing letters?**

(Hint: one letter is a vowel, one is a consonant and one can be used as a vowel or consonant!)

Fiction Books (not real)

1. Fant __ sy
2. Sc __ ry
3. My __ tery
4. Folk and Fair __ Tales
5. Sports __ tories
6. Hi __ torical Fiction

Non-Fiction Books (real)

1. __ nimals
2. We __ ther
3. Geogr __ ph __
4. __ ports
5. Hi __ tory
6. Biogr __ ph __



What Did the Characters Do?

We all have our favorite Mother Goose nursery rhymes! Writers and artists have created many different books using Mother Goose verses. **Can you match these characters to the phrases that tell what they did?**

1. Old Mother Goose
2. Peter Piper
3. Humpty Dumpty
4. Jack and Jill
5. Little Jack Horner
6. Jack Sprat
7. Old Mother Hubbard
8. Cow
9. Little Bo-Peep
10. Blackbirds
11. Simple Simon
12. Baby

- A. jumped over the moon
- B. picked pickled peppers
- C. would fly on a gander
- D. were baked in a pie for the King
- E. went to get a pail of water
- F. looked everywhere for her sheep
- G. was walking to the fair
- H. could not eat fat
- I. wasn't careful on the wall
- J. rocked in a cradle on a tree branch
- K. wanted to give her a dog a bone
- L. liked to eat Christmas pie

Where can you find a story? Who will tell you one? What contains a story? Read each item below. Is it a person, place or thing? **Use the key to fill in the blanks.** (Hint: there are 4 people, 4 places, 4 things.)

1. __ librarian
2. __ store
3. __ DVD
4. __ classroom
5. __ book
6. __ friend
7. __ newspaper
8. __ public library
9. __ storyteller
10. __ magazine
11. __ grandparent
12. __ bookmobile

A Story! A Story!

A **noun** is a person, place or thing. **Use this key to fill in the puzzle.**

P = Person
PL = Place
T = Thing

Follow the dots!

Books are enchanting!

DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald
125 years ago

- Gates Kersburg opened "The Old Kentucky Liquor Store" to the public on Monday and was well patronized. When the finishing touches are put on it, the bar will be one of the most elegant in the state.
- Yesterday afternoon, District Game Warden Kilduff seized a cache of deer hides found in a vacant cabin up Sulfur.

The Meeker Herald
100 years ago

- Our streets and roads near Meeker are in the best shape we have ever seen this time of the year. It shows what constant care will do.
- The American Legion is going to support a ball team this year. The first practice will be tomorrow.

The Meeker Herald
50 years ago

- Christo is expected

in Rifle in mid-May to resume his efforts to put up his "Valley Curtain" across Rifle Gap.

- The Meeker Local History Class is in the process of compiling written and taped biographies and autobiographies of pioneers who settled the Meeker area. They plan to publish these pioneer histories within the next year.

The Meeker Herald
25 years ago

- Two Meeker teens were

injured April 28 when the 1978 Chevrolet Suburban in which they were riding left the pavement on Highway 64, and overturned.

- A Meeker woman suffered only minor bumps and bruises on April 27th when the horse she was riding unexpectedly collapsed and died on a hillside near Starbuck Stadium.

Rangely Times
50 years ago

- A contract was signed with the Yellow Jacket

Conservancy District last week by the county commissioners to sell 61 cubic feet per second of water, held by the county as owners of the Highland Ditch under a conditional decree, to the District for \$10,000.

- Betsy Tousley, eighth grader from Dinosaur, was the winner of the Moffat County spelling contest held April 7th at Craig. She will compete in Denver May 6 for the state contest, sponsored by the *Rocky Mountain News*.

Rangely Times
25 years ago

- The Cavalcade of cartoon Circus Stars, live and in person, is coming to town with trained animals, exciting jugglers, tumblers, dancing dogs, amazing aerialists, and more.

- The volunteers and staff of the Colorado Welcome Center in Dinosaur will open the center on May 1 with new and exciting information on what there is to see and do in Colorado.

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PARTING SHOT ...



Whether or not the weather has made up its mind about what season it is, curious little robins are pretty certain spring has very much sprung.

CATLIN WALKER PHOTO

PUBLIC NOTICES

REQUEST FOR BIDS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RIO BLANCO COUNTY
2022 Pavement Marking Paint Project
2022 Rio Blanco County Pavement Marking Paint Project. Work includes providing and installing approx. 2,470 total gallons of Pavement Marking Paint: 1,400 Gallons of Yellow Pavement Marking Paint with Beads for the centerline and approx. 1,069 Gallons of White Pavement Marking Paint with Beads for the shoulder lines on various roads throughout the County.

BID DOCUMENTS
Rio Blanco County Bid Documents shall be available on April 21, 2022 at the Rio Blanco County Road and Bridge Dept., 570 Second Street, Meeker, CO 81641, or on-line at www.govbids.com/scripts/co1/public/home1.asp, or on the county's website at <http://co-rioblancocounty.civicplus.com/bids.aspx>.

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING
Bidders must attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting May 5, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. at the Rio Blanco County Road & Bridge Dept., 570 Second Street, Meeker, CO.

PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT AND QUESTIONS
Clint Chappell, Road & Bridge Coordinator, (970) 878-9590, Fax (970) 878-3396. Mailing address: Rio Blanco County Road and Bridge Dept., 570 Second Street, Meeker, CO 81641.

All vendors must examine the sites and become familiar with all site conditions. Any questions regarding the project are to be directed in writing to Clint Chappell before Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 4:00 P.M. at the above address or fax number.

WORK SCHEDULE
The Project shall start on or after May 23, 2022 and shall be complete by July 1, 2022.

BID SUBMITTAL
Bids shall have Vendor's name and address and "2022 PAVEMENT MARKING PAINT BID" written on the sealed envelope. All required documents shall be included with the bid or it shall be rejected. Each bid must include a certified check or cashier's check in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid, made payable to Rio Blanco County, or by a bid bond in like amount executed by a surety company.

Mailed bids are due no later than 4:00 P.M. on Friday, May 13, 2022. Do not depend on overnight delivery. Hand delivered bids will be accepted from 8:00 A.M. to 10:45 A.M. on May 16, 2022.

Mailing address: RBC County of County Commissioners, Attn: Vicky Edwards, P.O. Box 599, Meeker, CO 81641
Hand-delivery address: RBC Historic Courthouse, 555 Main Street, Meeker, CO

BID OPENING
Bids shall be opened and read in public at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, May 16, 2022 at the **RBC Courthouse, 555 Main St., 3rd Floor, Meeker, CO.** Bids submitted after 10:45 A.M. shall be returned unopened. Bids submitted and opened shall not be withdrawn for 30 days thereafter.

BID AWARD
The Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids; to waive any informalities in bids; and to accept the bid that, in the opinion of the Board, is in the best interest of the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado.

The County also reserves the right to negotiate changes in project specifications with successful Vendor. If the Agreement is to be awarded, Owner will give the Successful Vendor a Notice of Award within thirty days after the day of the Bid opening.

BID PREFERENCE
C.R.S. 8-17-101, et seq, shall be observed on all construction contracts on public projects. The law states that when a construction contract for a public project is to be awarded to a bidder, a resident bidder shall be allowed preference against a nonresident bidder from another state equal to the preference given or required by the state in which the nonresident bidder is a resident.

COLORADO LABOR
C.R.S. 8-17-101 states "whenever any public works project financed in whole or in part by funds of the state, counties, school districts, or municipalities of the state of Colorado are undertaken in this state, Colorado labor shall be employed to perform at least eighty percent of the work. The governmental body financing a public works project shall waive the eighty percent requirement if there is reasonable evidence to demonstrate insufficient Colorado labor to perform the work of the project and if compliance with this article would create an undue burden that would substantially prevent a project from proceeding to completion".

BID AWARD
The Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids; to waive any informalities in bids; and to accept the bid that, in the opinion of the Board, is in the best interest of the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado.

RIO BLANCO COUNTY
DATED: APRIL 21, 2022
BY: TY GATES, CHAIRMAN
Published: April 21 and 28, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES
CIRCLE PARK PHASE II PROJECT
The Town of Meeker, a Colorado statutory municipality ("Town"), and the Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District, a political subdivision of the State of Colorado ("ERBM"), are soliciting proposals from river/riparian engineering firms to perform professional design and project management services for the park located at 1 South 5th Street, Meeker, CO 81641 ("Circle Park"), including but not limited to: (a) complete a final evaluation of the Circle Park project site, the 3rd Street and 10th Street river access points, and the corresponding river corridor; (b) prepare construction drawings, plans, specifications, maps, and other documents (collectively, the "Specifications") necessary or appropriate for a general contractor to construct the project; (c) oversee the construction to ensure it is properly performed; and, (d) perform any post-construction monitoring work required by the permits issued for the project. Copies of the Request for Proposals,

LAND USE REGULATION AMENDMENT HEARING - RVs

PUBLIC NOTICE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO HEARING
Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 the Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Rio Blanco County Annex Building - Board Room, 17497 Hwy 64, Rangely, Colorado to consider the following: 2021 Land Use Regulation Amendments OTHER-0002-21. Recreational Vehicles Article 7, Section 7-610 Additional Standards Applicable to Recreational Vehicles: Replace all existing text to read as follows: Recreational Vehicle use on privately

REAL PROPERTY PROTEST
PUBLIC NOTICE
Colorado Law requires the County Assessor to hear objections to real property classifications and valuations beginning no earlier than May 2, 2022. Objections to the valuation or classification of real property must be postmarked, delivered, or presented in person to the County Assessor's office no later than June 1, 2022. If you should want to object to your Notice of Value please make an appointment by calling the County Assessor's Office at 970-878-9410. You can also email assessor@rbc.us
Published: April 28, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

background documents, and the form Professional Design and Project Management Services Agreement may be obtained at the Town Hall located at 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO 81641 or online at: www.townofmeeker.org.
Proposals must be received by the Town by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 ("Submission Deadline"). Proposals may be submitted by mail or hand delivery to the Town Administrator, Mandi Etheridge, at 345 Market Street, Meeker, Colorado 81641. Any qualified firm wishing to submit a proposal must complete a site visit on either of two available days according to the RFP. Proposals received after the Submission Deadline will not be considered.
The Town and ERBM reserve the right to reject any and all proposals. The Town and ERBM may accept the proposal that, in their estimation, represents the best value to them and the community they serve. The Town and ERBM's acceptance of a proposal is conditioned upon the parties executing a mutually acceptable Professional Design and Project Management Services Agreement.
Published: April 14, 21 and 28, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

owned legal parcels for longer than 120 consecutive days must meet the following conditions:
A) Recreational Vehicles must have access to potable water supply.
B) Recreational Vehicles must have connection to Rio Blanco County approved sanitary sewer system
Copies of the documents may be obtained from the Rio Blanco County Planning Department at 555 Main Street in Meeker, Colorado, or you may call (970) 878-9510 for more information between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.
Published: April 14, 21, 28, May 5 and 12, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

INVITATION TO BID

INVITATION TO BID
TOWN OF DINOSAUR
CURED-IN PLACE SEWERLINE
REHABILITATION
DINOSAUR, COLORADO
April 25, 2022

Informal cost proposals from qualified contractors in the Cured-in-Place Pipe (CIPP) process for rehabilitating sanitary sewer lines will be received by the Town of Dinosaur (Town/ Owner) at 317 Stegosaurus Freeway, Dinosaur, Colorado 81610, until the close of business (5:00 pm MDT) on May 9, 2022. Cost proposals will be reviewed by the Town at their May 10, 2022 Council Meeting.

The construction for which cost proposals are being requested generally consists of rehabilitating three (3) segments of the Town's sewer collection system by one of the following CIPP processes: a) Fold and Form (per ASTM Designation: F 1504-97), b) Insitu PVC Resin with Steam Cure Process or Ultraviolet (UV) Light Cure Process (per ASTM Designation: F 1216-93), and consists of the following major items.

1. Sewer Line Cleaning with Pre-Television analysis of Sewer Lines to be rehabilitated.
2. Rehabilitation of approximately 1,080 L.F. of sewer lines consisting of the following three (3) sewer line segments within the Town's existing sewer collection system.
 - a) Sewer line along 4th Street between Triceratops Terrace and School Street (Drop MH 4-1 to Drop MH 4-2)
 - b) Sewer line along School Street between 3 rd Street and 4th Street (Drop MH 4-2 to MH 5-1)
 - c) Sewer line along Ceratosaurus Circle between 4th Street and 5th Street (Drop MH 5-1 to MH 4-5)
3. Post Television analysis and internal cutting of sewer service tap connections to reestablish sewer service to private residences.

4. Any necessary by-pass pumping or otherwise control of all live sewage flows. Upstream and downstream manholes to the respective sewer lines were recently replaced in February 2022 to provide clear unobstructed access to the respective sewer lines for the CIPP equipment. All manholes are located within the Town's existing street right-of-ways.

A hard copy or e-file copy of the General Site Plan showing the location of the respective sewer line segments to receive the CIPP rehabilitation work, applicable sections of the Phase IIIB Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Specifications that is being completed in conjunction with the CIPP project, and a Bid Schedule with itemized Bid Items to assist the Bidder in preparing their Cost Proposal. All pertinent documents may be obtained by contacting WestWater Engineering, 2516 Foresight Circle #1, Grand Junction, CO 81505, (970) 241-7076. There is no charge for the documents. It is not necessary for the Bidder to use the Bid Schedule when submitting a cost proposal, and the project does not require a Bid Bond.

Cost Proposals should identify the project as the Town of Dinosaur's Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation, and sent either electronically (email) to Richard Blakley at

dinowater@centurylink.net or mailed to:

Town of Dinosaur
c/o Richard Blakley, Mayor
317 Stegosaurus Freeway
Dinosaur, Colorado 81601
The Town's mailing address is:
P.O. Box 238
Dinosaur, Colorado 81601

(Note: US Postal Service does not deliver to the Town's street address)
The Bidder/Contractor is also made aware that the project is being funded through a combination of a low interest loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program as administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and a US Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) as administered through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DoLA). These programs require certain state and federal guidelines to be followed. Attention is specifically called to the minimum salaries and wages (i.e., Davis Bacon wages) as set forth in General Decision Number CO2021002 dated February 25, 2022.

Further, the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. In the event the Bidder/Contractor anticipates hiring employees to work on this project, the Bidder should first contact the local Workforce Center office for qualified candidates. Also, due to the funding stipulations, the project must be completed by June 30, 2022.

This project is further subject to the following SRF requirements in addition to the Davis Bacon Prevailing Wage requirements, if applicable.

- 1) American Iron and Steel
- 2) National Term on Suspension and Debarment
- 3) Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Requirements
- 4) Williams Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970
- 5) Discovery of Archaeological and Other Historical Items

The requirements for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs (DBE) have been waived for the project due to the project size. All sales tax is also exempt as a part of purchasing any materials for the project, as the Town of Dinosaur is a tax-exempt entity.

The Contractor to whom the work is awarded will be required to execute six (6) copies of the formal Agreement with the Owner on forms supplied by the Owner with Certificates of Insurance within 10 days from the date when the Notice of Award is issued. Performance and Payment Bonds are not required on the project; however, the selected Contractor will be required to have appropriate insurance.

Potential bidders can visit the site individually by contacting the Town of Dinosaur's, ORC, Richard Blakley at (970) 374-2286.

By: Richard Blakley, Mayor
Town of Dinosaur
Published: April 28, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

RIO BLANCO COUNTY
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE PUBLICATION
LIST
MARCH 31, 2022

FUND: GENERAL
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

WHITE RIVER DIST, SPPLYS, (67.50)
1st RESPOND, SPPLY, 86.89
A-1 HEATING, PRCH SVC, 188.21
ALSCO, PRCH SVC, 1,410.68
AMAZON, SPPLY, 10,833.50
ASSOCIATED GOV, INTR GOV, 17,000.00
ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 5,050.62
BOYKO, SPPLY, 103.86
CENTURYLINK, LND LN, 473.98
CENTURYLINK LNG DIST, LNG DIST, 5.05
CENTURYLINK-LND LN, LND LN, 538.68
CHAPPELL, CLINT, PLNNG CMM, 50.00
CNCC, CNTRCT SVC, 2,500.00
COLORADO ASSN, PRCH SVC, 125.00
CO CORONER'S ASSN, PRCH SVC, 1,287.00
COLORADO, ST OF, PRCH SVC, 449.60
COLUMN, PRCH SVC, 299.09
CNTY SHERIFF'S OF CO, TRNNG/DEV, 185.00

DAY, TRAVIS, PLNNG CMM, 50.00
D.A OFFICE, PRCH SVC, 26,763.42
DUNAN, JOSEPH, PRCH SVC, 110.46
DVL GROUP, PRCH SVC, 2,538.00
FEDEX, PRCH SVC, 25.27
FIRST ADVANTAGE, PRCH SVC, 296.64
GRAINGER, SPPLY, 84.90
GRAN FARNUM, SPPLY, 4,953.00
JOHNSON CONTROLS, PRCH SVC, 170.40
K-D FLAGS, SPPLY, 510.05
KINSCO, UNFRM/CLTH, 188.96
LOVE, VIRGINIA, PLNNG CMM, 50.00
MASTER'S TOUCH, PRCH SVC, 987.26
MEEKER AIRPORT, CNTRCT SVC, 3,000.00
MEEKER CHAMBER, PRCH SVC, 175.00
MEEKER SANITATION, UTL, 772.00
MEEKER, TOWN OF, UTL, 387.10
MENDENHALL, NICOLE, ADVNC, 599.61
TONYA MERZ, PRCH SVC, 487.51
MOFFAT COUNTY, PRCH SVC, 5,526.06
MOON LAKE, UTL, 1,940.08
MORNING STAR ELEVATOR, PRCH SVC, 561.00

MVB VISA, PRCH SVC, 14,380.63
GARY MOYER, PRCH SVC, 352.79
MUSSER, ERIN, SPPLY, 33.01
NICHOLS STORE, SPPLY, 21.00
NORMAN, ADAIR, PLNNG CMM, 117.20
NORTHWEST AUTO, PRCH SVC, 208.50
OVERHEAD DOOR, SPPLY, 231.00
OVERTON RECY, UTL, 1,428.00
LEE OVERTON, PLNNG CMM, 50.00
PATHOLOGY GROUP, PRCH SVC, 2,815.00
WILLIAM PENA, ADVNC, 311.00
PMC, PRCH SVC, 497.00
PITNEY BOWES RES, PRCH SVC, 413.11
RANGELY, TOWN OF, UTL, 4,202.47
RANGELY TRASH, PRCH SVC, 738.25
RANGELY TRUE VALUE, SPPLY, 1,347.04
RBC ABSTRACT CO, PRCH SVC, 1,350.00
RICHARDSON, FAIN, PRCH SVC, 120.00
RB HERALD TIME, PRCH SVC, 163.84
RM MOBILE, PRCH SVC, 630.00
ROCKY MTN POLICE, PRCH SVC, 200.00
SANITARY SUPPLY, SPPLY, 759.68
SCOTT, JOHN, PLNNG CMM, 50.00
SHI INTERNATIONAL, EE SHRF, 1,081.17
SKAGGS, UNFRM/CLTH, 427.40
STAPLES, SPPLY, 1,052.40
STEERMAN LAW OFFC, PROF SVC, 10,000.00

UINTAH BASIN OVERHEAD, RPR/MNTC, 556.00
UNION, PRCH SVC, 75.76
VALLEY HARDWARE, SPPLY, 778.05
VALUE WEST, PRCH SVC, 4,720.00
VOIANCE LANGUAGE, PRCH SVC, 76.40
WATT'S, INTR GOV, 84.55
WESTERN STS TRIBEL, WSTRN ST, 5,000.00
WHITE RIVER DIST, SPPLY, 247.50
WREA, UTL, 13,044.47
YOUR PARTS HAUS, SPPLY, 19.99
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 23,523.43
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 42,869.34
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 81,309.41
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 36,218.17
AMERICAN FIDELITY, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 243.74
TEXAS LIFE INSURANCE, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 178.38
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 10,732.87
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY, WAGE ASMNT, 39.98
GENERAL FUND TOTAL, 353,394.91

FUND: ROAD & BRIDGE
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

AMAZON, SPPLY, 459.97
AXIS STEEL, MTRLS, 2,223.60
HAGGART, JAMES, TRNNG/DEV, 321.16
MVB VISA, SUBSCRPT, 65.86

TOWN OF MEEKER

TOWN OF MEEKER ~ BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, May 3rd 2022
7:00 P.M. ~ Town Hall
345 Market Street, Meeker, CO

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

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

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

8. New Business
 - a. Resolution #6-2022 appointing Town Officers: Administrator, Clerk, Police Chief, Attorney & Judge
 - b. Resolution #7-2022 appointing Mayor Pro-Tem
 - c. Resolution #8 ~ 2022 appointing new Planning Commission members: Jim Kendall and Greg Hanberg
 - d. Bid opening of Meeker Circle Park RFP and appointment of subcommittee
 - e. Consideration of Lease Agreement for Meeker Chamber of Commerce at Town Hall
 - f. Approval of Contract for TDA Construction for Garfield Water Line
 - g. Consideration of support for Meeker Golf Club
 - h. Discussion regarding use of Ute Park for MACC Brewfest and Skijor
 9. Staff Updates
 - a. Town Manager
 10. Mayor's Remarks
 11. Other Board Business
 12. Adjournment
- Published: April 28, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NIX.CO, SPPLY, 9.50

OFFICE DEPOT, SPPLY, (6.94)
PITNEY BOWES RES, PRCH SVC, 9.78
RANGELY TRUE VALUE, SPPLY, 17.57
SAFETY AND CONSTRUCTION, SIGN MTRL, 1,482.90
SAMUELSON, SPPLY, 27.98
WESTERN IMPLEMENT, SPPLY, 59.62
WREA, UTL, 94.47
YOUR PARTS HAUS, SPPLY, 22.58
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 10,051.67
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 21,048.90
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 50,852.33
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 17,210.15
AMERICAN FIDELITY, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 1,415.17
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 5,046.75
COLORADO DEPT OF REVENUE, WAGE ASMNT, 97.88
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTR, WAGEASMNT, 923.06
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND TOTAL, 11,433.96

FUND: PUBLIC HEALTH
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

AMAZON, SPPLY, 209.93
McKESSON MED, SPPLY, 14,279.61
MVB VISA, PRCH SVC, 535.43
PITNEY BOWES RES, PRCH SVC, 6.36
R & S NORTHEAST, SPPLY, 745.36
RANGELY HOSPITAL, PRCH SVC, 189.90
RB HERALD TIME, PRCH SVC, 3,392.25
STAPLES, SPPLY, 119.63
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 1,217.98
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 3,275.63
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 7,481.40
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 1,192.86
AMERICAN FIDELITY, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 38.22
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 743.17
PUBLIC HEALTH FUND TOTAL, 33,427.73

FUND: DEPT OF HUMAN SVCS
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

MOFFAT COUNTY, CNTRCT SVC, 4,521.26
PITNEY BOWES RES, CNTY EXPNC, 38.57
STEERMAN LAW OFFC, CNTRCT SVC, 10,095.06
UNION, PRCH SVC, 227.28
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 1,747.13
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 4,581.92
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 11,304.36
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 1,816.65
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 1,090.96
AP PAYMENTS, 6,312.22
DEPT OF HUMAN SVCS FUND TOTAL, 41,735.41

FUND: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

MTN CROSS ENGINEER, MA RNWY PRJCT, 525.00
T-O ENGINEERS, MA ENTLMNT, 32,064.41
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND TOTAL, 32,589.41

FUND: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 220.04
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 453.12
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 1,538.25
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 106.00
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND TOTAL, 2,317.41

SENIOR CITIZEN WATER RATE REDUCTION

SENIOR CITIZEN'S WATER RATE REDUCTION PROGRAM

If you live in a household with one family member who is 64 years or older, as shown by a birth certificate, school records, and military discharge documents or other supporting documentation acceptable to the Town of Meeker, you may qualify for a reduced water rate during the months of May through September. Eligible households receive the first 8,000 gallons of water free each month (a savings of \$24.00 per month). Usage over 8,000 gallons per month will be billed at the rate of \$1.55 cents per 1,000 gallons. See attached fee increase schedule.

To qualify for the program, the total gross family income for all residents of the household must be less than one thousand, nine hundred fifty-five dollars and seventy-nine cents (\$1,955.71 per month) or twenty-three thousand, four hundred sixty eight dollars and fifty cents (\$23,468.50 per year) as evidenced by the federal income tax returns for all household members for the year 2021. If you are not required to file an income tax return, please provide copies of all non-taxable income received by the household for the year 2021.

If you have been previously enrolled in this program, the Town has your proof of age on file and will only require that you provide the income tax return or written proof of non-taxable income. To qualify for the program for the month of May, please provide the town with the required information no later than May 20, 2022. If you miss the May deadline you may qualify for a reduction in June if the required information is filed with the Town no later than June 20, 2022. If you have questions or need more information, please call 970-878-5344. Published: April 28 and May 5, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 8,084.91
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 2,005.80
AMERICAN FIDELITY, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 113.26
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 603.86
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTR, WAGEASMNT, 347.70
USE TAX FUND TOTAL, 28,154.79

FUND: SOLID WASTE
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

AMAZON, SPPLY, 3,021.38
CDPHA, CLSR/POST, 156.25
MVB VISA, TRNNG/DEV, 250.00
PITNEY BOWES RES, PRCH SVC, 5.34
PRINT SHOP, SPPLY, 834.00
REDI SERVICES, PRCH SVC, 80.00
SOUDER, MILLER, PRCH SVC, 7,053.75
UNION, PRCH SVC, 46.12
WREA, UTL, 530.36
WR ENERGY, UTL, 846.66
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 1,332.25
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 2,015.46
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 7,339.45
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 595.20
AMERICAN FIDELITY, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 1.35
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 565.25
SOLID WASTE FUND TOTAL, 21,072.82

FUND: WEED & PEST
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

AMAZON, SPPLY, 930.02
CALIX, CAP OTLY, 10,544.06
CASTLE ROCK MICROWAVE, SPPLY, 1,213.13
COMMSCOPE TECH, PRCH SVC, 1,475.00
GME SUPPLY, SPPLY, 543.00
KPE LOCATING, PRCH SVC, 1,280.00
MAMMOTH NET, PRCH SVC, 3,561.00
MOON LAKE, UTL, 866.93
NOANET, PRCH SVC, 544.50
ONE TECHNOLOGY, PRCH SVC, 10,610.00
RANGELY, TOWN OF, UTL, 18.60
UTILITY NOTIFICATION, PRCH SVC, 24.70
WREA, UTL, 1,768.48
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 850.09
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 2,057.06
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 4,771.76
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 1,613.43
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 493.14
COMMUNICATIONS FUND TOTAL, 43,164.90

FUND: FAIRFIELD
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

ATMOS ENERGY, UTL, 1,198.94
BOYKO, SPPLY, 140.40

CRITTERS R US, PRCH SVC, 300.00
MEEKER SANITATION, UTL, 40.00
MEEKER, TOWN OF, UTL, 588.00
OVERTON RECY, UTL, 345.00
SAMUELSON, SPPLY, 450.71
WREA, UTL, 1,873.46
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 323.26
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 827.06
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 2,713.70
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 640.56
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 189.00
FAIRFIELD FUND TOTAL, 9,630.09

FUND: CENTRAL SVCS
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

IMAGENET CONSULTING, CNTRCT SVC, 809.12
PITNEY BOWES RES, PSTG, 31.91
ROCKY MTN COMPETITIVE, CNTRCT SVC, 708.17
CENTRAL SVCS FUND TOTAL, 1,549.21

FUND: FLEET
VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME,
AMOUNT

GRAND JUNCTION CHRYSLER, CAP OTLY, 131,628.00
1st RESPOND, SPPLY, 36.81
AIRGAS, SPPLY, 369.14
COLUMBINE FORD, PRTS/ACCS, 1,857.29
COLUMN, PRCH SVC, 47.52
CORNWELL TOOLS, MISC INVT, 95.95
CUMMINS SALES, CAP OTLY, 3,541.00
CUMMINS ROCKY MTN, CAP OTLY, 3,541.00
HONNEN EQUIP, CAP OTLY, 31,099.95
JACKSON GROUP, SPPLY, 4,775.82
MCGUIRE AUTO, SPPLY, 2,467.50
MEEKER COLLISION, RPR/MNTC, 2,855.40
MOON LAKE, UTL, 76.77
MVB VISA, GAS, 1,459.60
NEXTRAN TRUCK CENTERS, PRTS/ACCS, 421.40
OFFICE DEPOT, SPPLY, 287.98
POWER EQUIP, RPR/MNTC, 193.13
RANGELY AUTO, SPPLY, 1,517.57
RANGELY COLLISION, RPR/MNTC, 526.20
RANGELY TRUE VALUE, SPPLY, 8.99
RHINEHART OIL, LUB, 27,513.21
ROCKY MTN MACHINE, PRTS/ACCS, 229.96
SEVERSON SUPPLY, CAP OTLY, 1,816.00
UNITED SUPPLY, PRTS/ACCS, 32.04
U.S. TRACTOR, PRTS/ACCS, 507.64
VALLEY HARDWARE, SPPLY, 42.57
WAGNER EQUIP, RPR/MNTC, 11,857.50
WATT'S, SPPLY, 13.74
WEAR PARTS & EQUIP, PRTS/ACCS, 14,957.60
WREA, UTL, 701.62
WR ENERGY, UTL, 548.00
XCCEL ENERGY, UTL, 431.87
YOUR PARTS HAUS, SPPLY, 1,005.02
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 1,856.48
US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 4,665.46
COUNTY HEALTH POOL, INSURANCE, 9,326.26
GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 5,357.68
AMERICAN FIDELITY, SPLMNTL INSURANCE, 325.98
CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 1,103.00
FLEET FUND TOTAL, 269,098.65
TOTAL: \$ 951,501.02
Published: April 28, 2022
Rio Blanco Herald Times

FORECLOSURE

COMBINED NOTICE- SALES
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 22-01

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust

On October 5, 2021, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Rio Blanco records.

Original Grantor(s): MANUEL MADRID AND LUZ ESTELA CAMPA DE MADRID
Original Beneficiary(ies): MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS BENEFICIARY, AS NOMINEE FOR LOANDEPOT.COM, LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt: FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Date of Deed of Trust: May 14, 2017
County of Recording: Rio Blanco
Recording Date of Deed of Trust: May 24, 2017

Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.): 314540
Original Principal Amount: \$135,785.00
Outstanding Principal Balance: \$130,091.14

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN
LOT 14 BLOCK 3 SAGEWOOD WEST SUBDIVISION AS PLATTED AND RECORDED UNDER RECEPTION NO. 189097 TOWN OF RANGELY, COUNTY OF RIO BLANCO, STATE OF COLORADO

Also known by street and number as: 1040 HALFTURN RD, RANGELY, CO 81648. THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 02/02/2022, at Office of the Public Trustee, Rio Blanco County Courthouse, 555 Main Street, Meeker CO 81641, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s) heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law. First Publication: 4/21/2022
Last Publication: 5/19/2022
Name of Publication: Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

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

- A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-104 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED;
- A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38 -38-.302 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE;
- IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
- IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov
DATE: 2/11/2022

Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado
By: Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
Amanda Ferguson #44893 Heather Deere #28597 Toni M. Owan #30580
Halliday Watkins & Mann, P.C. 355 Union Blvd., Ste. 250, Lakewood, CO 80228 (303)274-0155
Attorney File # CO11316

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
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TOWN OF RANGELY
UTILITIES OPERATOR POSITION

The Town of Rangely is accepting applications for a Utilities Operator Position. Responsibilities primarily focus on the operation of the Town's water and wastewater treatment facilities, which include the water treatment plant and distribution system, as well as the wastewater treatment plant and collection system. Local opportunity is available for entry level position in maintenance with eventual advancement to become a certified operator. Within two years, the selected candidate will be expected to obtain, at a minimum, a Small-Water Operator Certification, a Class-D Wastewater Operator Certification, and a Class 1 Collection System Operator Certification. Out-of-state operators currently certified at equivalent levels would aid in the ability of the candidate to transition rapidly. Salary will be evaluated and commensurate with the candidate's qualifications. This is a full-time position with benefits. Benefits include Health, Dental, Life Insurance, Short Term Disability, Credit Union Membership, WRB Park & Recreation Admission, and Retirement with matched contribution by Town of Rangely. Vacation, Sick, and Personal Days start accruing immediately. The Rangely, Colorado community is located in the high desert of Northwest Colorado, sitting along the White River. Our town is filled with caring citizens, clean air, and amazing adventures...right out your backdoor. We feel fortunate to have 300 days of sunshine a year, dark skies, hundreds of miles of OHV Trails and one of the only designated natural rock-crawling parks in Colorado. We are located on the Dinosaur Diamond Scenic Byway, just 20 minutes from Dinosaur National Park, thriving with outdoor recreational opportunities. To apply, please submit a completed application to the Town of Rangely at 209 E. Main Street, Rangely Colorado 81648. Applications are also available on our website at www.rangely.com. Email resume and completed application to marybelc@rangelyco.gov or drop off at the Municipal Offices at 209 E. Main, Rangely, Colorado. Please visit our website and see everything that Rangely has to offer. We look forward to hearing from you! Position is open until filled. The Town of Rangely is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF RANGELY
SEASONAL SUMMER HELP
POSITIONS OPENING

The Town of Rangely will be hiring seasonal workers for public works, gas, utilities, building and grounds and administration departments. Duties include but are not limited to the following: outside landscaping, maintenance, and a variety of other light duties depending on the department. The hourly rate is \$12.56/hour. Applications may be picked up at the Town of Rangely, 209 E Main, Rangely, CO 81648. Deadline for submitting an application is May 19, 2022. EOE.

TOWN OF RANGELY
CODE/ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLIANCE POSITION

The Town of Rangely is accepting applications for a Code/Animal Compliance Officer position. The position of Code Enforcement/Animal Control Officer is responsible for identifying violations of Town Municipal Code and issuing written notices of compliance/violations to ensure safety and well-being of the community members of the Town of Rangely. Essential Functions include but are not limited to good interpersonal communication, customer service experience, strong computer skills and the ability to work with animals. Minimum Qualifications: Possess a high school diploma or GED, be able to pass a drug screen, have a valid drivers license with a good record. The job requires the ability to stand walk, run and sit for extended periods. While performing these duties the employee is regularly exposed to outside weather conditions. The Rangely, Colorado community is located in the high desert of Northwest Colorado, sitting along the White River. Our town is filled with caring citizens, clean air, and amazing adventures...right out your backdoor. We feel fortunate to have 300 days of sunshine a year, dark skies, hundreds of miles of OHV Trails and one of the only designated natural rock-crawling parks in Colorado. We are located on the Dinosaur Diamond Scenic Byway, 20 minutes from Dinosaur National Monument, thriving with outdoor recreational opportunities. This position is part-time with some benefits. Wages are based on experience. To apply, please submit a completed application to the Town of Rangely at 209 E. Main Street, Rangely, Colorado 81648. Applications are also available on our website at www.rangely.com. Email resume and completed application to marybelc@rangelyco.gov or drop off at the Municipal Offices at 209 E. Main, Rangely, Colorado. Please visit our website and see everything that Rangely has to offer. We look forward to hearing from you! Position is open until filled. The Town of Rangely is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MGM Greenhouse seasonal position.
20-30 hours/week Thursday-Saturday
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Applications available at Meeker General
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Meeker, CO 970-878-3333.

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Group Fitness Instructor
Are you certified to teach a fitness class? Then we want you! Hours are flexible. Paid position.
Lifeguard
Would like First Aid/CPR/AED/Lifeguard certified but willing to train. Mornings, afternoons and evenings must be at least 15 years of age, part-time paid position.
Spring/Summer Park and Golf Course Maintenance
Must be motivated, hardworking, and have knowledge of basic park maintenance tasks. Responsible for performing general maintenance duties at assigned District parks and other grounds. Day shift, must be at least 16 years of age, part time paid position.
Custodian
Building cleaners are responsible for the appearance and cleanliness of the building. Employees may be assigned other duties as determined by management. Must be 18 years of age or older, evenings and weekends, part time paid position.

Call 970-675-8211 or come to the Rangely Rec Center at 611 South Stanlynd Ave. to fill out an application.

westernrioblanco.org

Position Announcement

White River Electric Association, Inc., has an immediate opening for the position of Apprentice Electrical Lineman. Applicant must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Graduates from accredited line worker's schools may be given preference. Applicant will be trained by WREA personnel for a career as a journeyman lineman. Applicant must be able to obtain a valid Colorado class A-CDL driver's license and must have a good driving record. Must be able to work 40-hour week. Must be able to work variety of hours if needed, evening, nights, early mornings, weekends, and holidays. Responsibilities include but not limited to general electric linework. Applicant must be able to pass a physical, drug and alcohol, and background tests. Position is considered full time with benefits available after 90 days. Salary range of \$31 - \$48 per hour depending on experience, plus any overtime. Successful applicant may be eligible for performance and year-end bonuses. Benefits include health, dental, vision, life insurances, paid vacation, sick leave, and retirement benefits. Applications can be obtained from the office of White River Electric Association, Inc., 233 6th Street, Meeker, CO 81641 from 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday. For more information contact Brett Berthelson, Field Representative, 970-878-5041. Applications and resume's will be accepted until, May 19th 2022 at 5:30 p.m. White River Electric Association, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.



EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES

Guest Services
Representative I
- \$14.52-\$20.78 per hour
- Part-time, non-benefited
- Availability for a variety of shifts

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



EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit www.rbc.us or Rio Blanco County HR at 555 Main Street, Meeker, CO. 970-878-9570 ADA/EOE

MEEKER
SCHOOL
DISTRICT
RE-1

Employment Opportunities

Meeker Elementary School

• Classroom Teacher
open until filled

Barone Middle School

• Math & Science Teacher
open until filled

Compensation and Benefits can be found on our website at: <https://www.meeker.k12.co.us/page/employment-opportunities> ADA/EOE.

Subject to change at any time! For details and an application, please visit our website at meeker.k12.co.us or Meeker School District Administration at 555 Garfield St., Meeker, CO 970-878-9040

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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FOR SALE

Eggs for sale.
Locally here in Meeker.
\$3.00 an 18 pack.
Call 970-326-3323.

HOMES FOR SALE

House for sale on 20 acres. Great view. 6 miles out Strawberry. (970) 693-4223

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(970)878-5606.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

FOR SALE
Older Grand Piano, German Hupfer Zeitz, refinished, in good condition. Call 970-243-4623 for more information and pricing.

RENTALS: RANGELY

For Rent-Bunk House
\$25.00 a night
Refrigerator, microwaves, hot shower on demand, bedding provided
For more information contact Chris at 970-620-2407

RENTALS: MEEKER

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

RENTALS: MEEKER

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

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

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

RENTALS: MEEKER

850+ sqft apartment (recently remodeled). \$700/month + matching deposit. Heat, cable TV, water, sewer & trash included. Coin laundry in building. NS/NP. Email info@meekerapartments.com for application, or call/text (970) 756-4895!

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

STORAGE

STORAGE DEPOT 10x25 unit. 878-4808.

YARD SALES

Garage Sale in the big red barn located at 6389 County Road 4 Meeker, Colorado, rain or shine Friday April 29th 12:00-7:00 and Saturday April 30th from 8:00-3:00. Lots of household items, horse tack, outfitting equipment, furniture and other treasures.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
64280 Hwy. 64 (Meeker). Saturday, April 30. 8am-2pm. Furniture, children's clothing and toys, dishes, wooden apple boxes, mixc. Some sporting equipment.

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15807 Road 8: Panoramic views, southern exposure, 5 acres, 3BD/2.5BA energy efficient home. \$834,000
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58.25 Acres east of Pioneers Medical Center: Surveyed, partially fenced, corrals, Highway 13 access. \$699,000
12.69 Acres 15 minutes east of Meeker: Borders Lake Avery State Land, water rights, southern exposure. \$480,000
PENDING 8617 Road 8: 10 miles from Meeker, 4BD/2BA log home, well water, 2.88 acres, valley views. \$450,000
PENDING 350 Garfield Street: 3BD/2.75BA ranch style home, detached garage, large lot, abundant parking. \$450,000
PENDING 2257 Road 6: 22+ acres w/ irrigation, loafing sheds, energy efficient 2BD/2BA log cabin. \$434,900
PENDING 475 Cedar Street: 6BD/2BA, ranch level w/ full basement, overlooking town of Meeker. \$400,000
NEW 795 2nd Street: 4BD/2BA, meticulously kept corner lot, perfect location. \$375,000
830 10th Street. SOLD
NEW 752 10th Street: Immaculate 4BD/2BA two level home, party-ready deck, fenced yard. \$315,000
8 East Main Street: 2,664 square feet, zoned rural residential, opportunity to convert to a home. \$298,000
PENDING 980 Cleveland St.: Corner lot, multi-family layout, 2BD/1BA upper level, 1BD/1BA lower level. \$280,000
1085 Laurie Circle: 5BD/2.5BA two levels, garage, privacy fence, next to park. \$266,000
8.45 acres at the top of 6th Street: Development potential, water tap paid, borders trail system, views. \$249,000
1087 Laurie Circle: 3BD/1.5BA ranch style home, garage, privacy fence, next to park. \$247,000
1110 Hill Street: 4BD/2BA bi-level home, fenced backyard. Primary home or income potential. \$219,000
1/5 Interest in the Sheridan Gravel Pit: Income producing, established lease, close to Pioneers Medical Center. \$200,000
109 Market Street: Highway commercial corner lot, bustling location, surrounded by thriving businesses. \$167,000
PENDING 13.45 Acres south of Pioneers Medical Center: Annexed into the town, surveyed and ready for development. \$187,700
1200 Flag Creek Drive: Ridge Estates Lot 26, 3.28 acres, great western views, utilities to lot line. \$80,000
1200 White River Road: Ridge Estates Lot 17, 2.28 acres, utilities to lot line, one mile from Meeker. \$70,000
PENDING 871 9th Street: 11,280 square foot vacant lot, elevated southern views. \$67,000

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W.R. Condo, Unit 19
NEW!
W.R. Condo, Unit 17

1161 C.R. 8-3BD | 2BA | 1952 SF log home on 5 acres overlooking the river with a natural spring. Features include central air, updated electrical system, and domestic well. Reduced \$410,000
138 Main St-2BD | 1.5BA | 1712 SF. Home w/ fireplace nook, custom office, fenced backyard w/ sprinklers & garage. Near all amenities. \$245,000
1251 White River Rd-Lot 6, Ridge Estates, 3.22 ± acres with domestic community water and use of the HOA irrigation system. \$135,000
NEW! White River Condo, Unit 17-2BD|1BA 877 SF, two-story floorplan, private laundrymat & park w/ river frontage. \$89,000.
NEW! White River Condo, Unit 19-1BD|1BA 435 SF, single-level unit on the 2nd floor w/ a private balcony. \$69,000.
NEW! TBD CR 102, Rangely-8 Lots selling as one RES property, together they make up 0.64 acres. Great investment opportunity. \$18,000
1110 & 1114 Greta Cir.....UNDER CONTRACT
172 Water St.....UNDER CONTRACT
1417 Silver Sage Rd.....UNDER CONTRACT
White River Condo, Unit 15.....UNDER CONTRACT
1301 White River Rd.....UNDER CONTRACT
1131 Michael Cir.....UNDER CONTRACT
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1307 Sage Ridge Rd.....SOLD
688 7th St.....SOLD

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*NEW 924 Main St. 3 BR, 1 BA home, basement family room, fenced yards, detached garage with bathroom. \$295,000. SALE PENDING!
*Five 6 to 8 Acre lots in east Rangely. \$51,000 to \$71,000.
*43 Acre lot in east Rangely. \$180,000.
TBD County Road 43-5 vacant irrigated acres. Great views. SOLD!
*6.4 Acre lot E Main St., Rangely. SOLD!
*195 Mesa Drive-5 Acres, large 2 story home, garage. \$502,000. SOLD!
189 County Road 43-Large home, garage, shop, 11.5 irrigated acres. SOLD!
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RANCHES
1001 County Rd. 36, Meeker - 145± total acres, ranch with 4 BD/3BA home, metal insulated shop, insulated barn and pipe corrals. Mostly irrigated with water and spring rights and creek. Only 3 miles from town. \$1,100,000.

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

VACANT LAND
135± acres - Vacant land with creek, pond, water rights and hay meadows. \$899,000.
NEW! Vacant Lot on Juniper Rd., Sage Hills. Nice 11,420 Sq.Ft. lot with great views. Easy lot to build on. Sewer tap paid for and available. \$54,500.
All advertising is subject to errors, omissions or changes without notice.

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