

DO YOU REMEMBER ...



What do you remember about the Yellow Creek School?
 The Rio Blanco County Historical Society and Bureau of Land Management, White River Field Office are tracing the history of the Yellow Creek Schoolhouse and request the help of the community. Located halfway between Meeker and Rangely, along State Highway 64, this schoolhouse served the surrounding area for almost 40 years before being used as a dance hall prior to its abandonment by the 1960s. Stories, photocopies, or archival information are requested to help complete the historical record, which has been largely successful thanks to the ongoing efforts of the Historical Society and community members and Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. If interested to learn more or to contribute to the Yellow Creek Schoolhouse project, please contact Historical Society Executive Director Teresa R. Reed at 970-388-7164 or edrbchistory@gmail.com. If you have items, articles or photos you can drop them off at the White River Museum. We can scan and record documents and photos to use in our research.

COURTESY PHOTOS

When in doubt, quarantine

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

RBC I Local COVID-19 case counts are changing quickly, and not in the right direction. The number of positive cases has tripled in the last two weeks, putting the county in “mitigation” status to attempt to preserve its Protect Our Neighbor status.

As of press time Wednesday there are outbreaks of the virus — defined as two or more individuals at a business or organization who have tested positive — in multiple locations, including the Walbridge Wing and the Meeker Rec District. There has been one case in the jail. Several businesses have had to close, not because of a government shutdown but because staff are ill or quarantined, and more closures are expected.

On Tuesday, Governor Jared Polis announced an additional level to the dial, one step beyond the red “Stay at Home” status. Multiple counties, including Mesa, were moved back to the red zone, and others, including Moffat, were moved to the orange level. The levels mean additional restrictions come back into place, such as no in-person dining and limiting group gatherings. According to Public Health Director Alice Harvey in a Board of Health meeting that was rescheduled from Thursday last week for Tuesday in Rangely, the county’s overall positivity rate has increased to 11%, and symptomatic individuals given the new rapid tests (made available Monday) are testing positive at 37%.

Harvey asked the Board of Health for permission to use remaining CARES Act funds to hire an additional nurse to help take care of the increasing caseload and contact tracing.

“Without a change in behavior from the community I’m afraid I’m not going to be able to

ACTIVE CASES AS OF 11/18:

MEEKER: 44
RANGELY: 5

guarantee public safety, in-person learning, and businesses remaining open,” she said, adding that she would be recommending a return to hybrid learning or 100% online learning for the Meeker School District based on new positive cases Tuesday. Wednesday morning, MSD Superintendent Chris Selle announced a transition to hybrid learning (see [Page 2A](#)).

“I suggest strong action and messaging from county leadership in support of mask wearing, compliance with public health recommendations which means limited gatherings, minimizing social activity and support of these new metrics and recommendations that are coming down,” Harvey said.

“If we don’t do something different in terms of compliance with these recommendations there will be things that are out of my control.”

The state has asked all counties to voluntarily move into the new red level to prevent a statewide shutdown, which appears imminent by the end of the year if current trends don’t change. The recommendations are the same as the ones we saw in the spring.

“If we choose not to move into that, which is entirely the choice of the board, we would be forced by Nov. 24 into a new level. That means, despite any action the county takes, it won’t be the choice of a business to comply or not comply. This is much more serious this time.”

When the meeting was opened for questions, Rangely Town Manager Lisa Piering

► See **COVID**, [Page 2A](#)

VETERANS DAY BARBECUE ...



ROXIE FROMANG PHOTOS

Veterans gathered for the annual Veterans Day barbecue in Rangely held at the Rangely Elks Lodge. (Top right) Barbecue organizer Sam Tolley read a letter from the Rangely Quilting Guild thanking the area Veterans for their service and telling them that the Guild will be sewing each area veteran a quilt starting with the Korean War Veterans. (Bottom right) Veterans Norm Hall Sr. and Christina Buckler pose for a photo.



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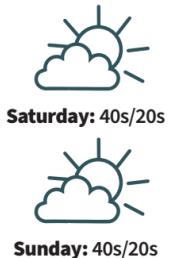


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COVID: change in behavior needed

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asked that Emergency Manager Ty Gates be brought back into the process, as Rangely's ICS [Incident Command System] meetings have not had county representation which has hindered the flow of information. Harvey agreed and said that is in process.

With a "room full of people" wanting to comment, the board heard from business owners and residents Brad Casto, Frank Huitt, Rodger Polley, Joy Clymer and Mona Avey who shared their objections to additional restrictions, government control, mask mandates, dangers to the economy, and to an electronic sign placed just west of Meeker alerting hunters that the county is experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19 and that they should take precautions while here.

The board also heard from Dr. Kurt Papenfus (see Page 5A) who is currently recovering from COVID-19 in Cheyenne Wells, Dr. Albert Krueger from

Pioneers Medical Center and a Board of Health member, attorney Hanna Borchard and resident Amberly Petty in support of recommendations to protect healthcare workers and hospital capacity, and urging precautions be taken in order to avoid losing control of the situation.

"I'd like to appeal to our population to understand that the personal protection of masks and social distancing will buy us some time," Krueger said. "We don't want to have a situation where we have no place to go with critically ill patients."

Ty Gates, speaking as the emergency manager and responding to the question about the ICS, said he was told over the weekend it was decided the county was setting up a task force and he was not included.

"We've been reserving ICS for a time like this," Harvey said. "We've been working this entire time with stakeholders."

Commissioners Rector and Moyer said they feel the board needs to find balance that fits the local community and the

economy. Woodruff said he felt the board needed to listen to Harvey's recommendations and asked that all three commissioners be included in questions.

Rector said the board would discuss possible actions regarding restrictions and recommendations, and all three commissioners agreed to help Public Health get the staffing and support they need. The decision to use some of the CARES money for staffing at public health will require a vote of the Board of County Commissioners next week.

At this point, numbers are changing so rapidly Public Health is having a hard time keeping their website updated with case counts and information, and the state's COVID page has a 24-72 hour lag. "When we're seeing a volume like we are now, our priority is case counts, contact tracing, and notifications. Data entry will be delayed," Harvey said.

As of Wednesday, RBC has had 90 total cases since April.

RIO BLANCO COUNTY COVID-19 STATS AS OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020

MEEKER ACTIVE CASES

44

RANGELY ACTIVE CASES

5

CURRENT HOSPITALIZATIONS

1

TOTAL CASES (SINCE 4/1/20)

90

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT

3

RANGELY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1

Visit <https://rbc.us/606/COVID-19-Updates>

Most CNCC classes to go online after Thanksgiving

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | CNCC administrators have made the decision to shift most classes online after Thanksgiving. Some classes that require in-person learning, such as the aviation maintenance and National Park Service programs in Rangely, will be on campus "for an additional undetermined amount of time."

Keith Peterson, vice president of instruction, stated in a letter sent to faculty, "This decision was not handed down by the Governor's Office, either of our county Health Departments, or CCCS, this is simply a proactive decision by administration made in the interest of keeping our CNCC family safe for the

holidays."

The school plans to have in-person learning for all programs and both campuses starting again in January.

Students in dorms will be allowed to stay in residence halls if they don't have a place to go during the Thanksgiving break, but will still attend classes remotely. Faculty will have the choice to work from home or on campus.

President Ron Granger thanked staff and students in a letter, stating, "From our health departments to our hospitals, we have received compliments on how we have handled this situation. In one conversation it was even mentioned that we are a model for others."

BLM hearing on wild horses and burros postponed

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has postponed an in-person public hearing on its proposal to use helicopter, fixed wing aircraft and other motorized vehicles to track, inventory, gather, and transport wild horse and burro herds throughout Colorado in the coming year. The meeting was originally scheduled to take place at the White River Field Office this Thursday, Nov. 19.

The BLM will reschedule the public hearing, offering an opportunity for members of the public to provide information to the BLM and comment on the proposed use of helicopters and fixed wing aircraft to track and

inventory wild horse or burro populations; use of helicopters to gather and remove excess animals; and use of motorized vehicles to transport gathered wild horses or burros and conduct field monitoring activities.

"In order to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19, the hearing will be rescheduled and may be held virtually at a later date," said Benjamin Gruber, Acting Deputy State Director of Resources.

Once it has been rescheduled, the BLM will announce the date of the public hearing with additional instructions for how people can participate. For more information, contact Maribeth Pecotte, 970-724-3027.

MSD transitions to hybrid learning

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | The Meeker School District has made the difficult decision to move to a hybrid learning plan. Starting Monday, Nov. 30, students in third through 12th grade will engage in learning through this hybrid model. Students in preschool through second grade will remain 100% in-person. Unless there are significant changes requiring further action, this model will be maintained through Dec. 17, the end of the academic semester. It is the intent to return to 100% in-person learning for all students on Jan. 4, 2021. School for all students has been cancelled for Nov. 23 and 24. Read the full letter from the district at tiny.cc/msdhybrid

Parade of Lights cancelled

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | The Meeker Chamber of Commerce has made the decision to cancel the Parade of Lights this year, as we unfortunately do not want to encourage a large public gathering at this time. We hope this holiday season we all continue to support each other and shop local and shop safely!

Who's got the **BEEF?**

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ITS NOT OMAHA STEAKS ...

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2 NY Strip steaks, 2 Porterhouse steaks, 4 burgers	
BEEF BRISKET, 2 LB.....	\$30.00
ROAST BEEF, 24 OZ	\$18.00
RIBEYE STEAK, 8 OZ.....	\$8.00
BEEF SHORT RIB MEAT (2-3 LBS).....	\$25.00
BEEF LASAGNA (SM. PAN)	\$30.00
PULLED PORK (SM. PAN).....	\$15.00
GARLIC SALMON W/ PASTA (7 OZ. EA.)	\$12.00

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- 01 Call the Meeker Family Health Center (970) 878-4014. Ask for a tele-health appointment.
- 02 Your Medical Assistant will send you a link to use at your appointment time.
- 03 At the time of your appointment, click your assigned link & verify your information. You'll be placed in a waiting room until your provider is ready to join you.

• Tele-health can be used for non-respiratory illnesses, prescription refills, disease management, behavioral health or workman's comp.

• In Colorado, tele-health is covered by all insurance plans. We recommend contacting your insurance company directly for more information.

• For Medicare & Medicaid patients, tele-health costs the same as an in-person clinic visit.

Call Meeker Family Health Center to see if a tele-health visit is right for you!



NEWS BRIEFS

ERBM closure due to COVID-19

MEEKER | Due to COVID-19 related staffing concerns, ERBM Recreation & Park District operations and facilities (including the Meeker Recreation Center) will be closed beginning Tuesday, Nov. 17, until further notice. More information, as it becomes available, will be posted at www.ERBMrec.com.

Meeker featured in new film

MEEKER | Meeker is officially set to hit the silver screen as locally made independent feature film Evergreen will be released on digital streaming platforms beginning Nov. 24. In December 2017, a group of budding independent filmmakers travelled from Los Angeles, California, to make a full-length feature film in Meeker, Colorado. Shot in just 10 days and set around the Christmas holiday, Evergreen shows off the beauty of the Colorado Western Slope while exploring a complicated romance between two star-crossed lovers and their emotional journey to accepting each other and themselves. The cast and crew received generous local support from Meeker and Rifle restaurants, services, and people, some of whom even appear in the film. The film took the U.S. film festival circuit by storm, playing at 11 festivals in 10 different states while racking up more than 10 awards in the process, including Best Picture by the Houston Film Critics Association. Starring Tanner Kalina (Everybody Wants Some!!) and Amanda Maddox (Moonbase 8), Evergreen will be released exclusively on iTunes on Nov. 24 before expanding to all digital streaming platforms and DVD on Dec. 1.

Little Points of Light virtual kick off

RBC | Join Horizons Specialized Services and Blanco Cellars & The little Cheese Shop for a virtual party on Thursday, December 3rd from 6-7pm. This event is free to attend. Learn about Horizons Early Intervention Services, Family Support Program, and Little Points of Light Campaign. Vanessa Trout will offer a presentation on how to make the perfect cheese board for any get-together or holiday party. Go to horizonsnwc.org to register for the Zoom link. To purchase a Little Points of Light Happy Hour Party Box for \$35, go to Blanco Cellars & The little Cheese Shop's website, blancocellars.com, then click on Shop, then Curated Collections.

WRBM pool closure Nov. 13 through 22

RANGELY | The WRBM Rec and Park District swimming pool and hot tub will be closed for maintenance and repairs Nov. 13-22. We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause and thank you for understanding.

Short staffed? Grow your own talent!

RBC | Good help is hard to find, yet great teams are more important now than ever. If you're part of a healthcare profession (medical, dental, pharmaceutical, behavioral, home health, assisted living, and so much more), you're invited to a panel discussion about new opportunities to grow your existing or new staff. Visit <http://bit.ly/CNCCHealthCareSurvey> to complete a short survey, and receive a follow-up email with useful information. For any other questions and to schedule a visit with our team contact Sasha Nelson, Colorado Northwestern Community College Director of Workforce Training at 970-824-1118 or email sasha.nelson@cncc.edu.

December CNCC classes

RBC | Basic Search and Rescue: Covers the basic fundamentals required for Search & Rescue in a wilderness environment. In-cludes practical experience in tracking; equipment knowledge; skill building for survival, support, & practical Search & Rescue in an outdoor environment. Course will conclude with practical testing & written examination to obtain certification in Fundamentals of Search & Rescue. Class meets in Rangely 8 a.m to 5 p.m. Dec. 7 to Dec. 11. The cost of the class is \$888. Registration due by Nov. 30. Sign-up by calling 970-824-1118 or by visiting <https://cncc.edu/community-programming-registration>.

COVID-19 testing options

RBC | Rio Blanco County Public Health and Environment offers COVID-19 testing for all citizens who are symptomatic and/or have had a known exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and would like a test. Due to community spread, drive-up testing will now be offered Monday through Friday from 10 to 11 a.m. in both Meeker and Rangely.

The designated COVID-19 testing area is the South parking lot in both Meeker and Rangely. When you arrive, please remain in your vehicle and a Public Health nurse will assist you.

If you are in need of a COVID-19 test for clearance for travel or part of your preoperative guidelines, please reach out to Pioneers Medical Center, 970-878-9796, or the Rangely District Hospital at 970-620-3969.

For further information, please contact the Rio Blanco County Public Health & Environment Department at 870-878-9520.

Henderson nominated to Merchant Marine Academy

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | Justin Henderson of Meeker has received a nomination to the Merchant Marine Academy from Rep. Scott Tipton (CO-03), who personally called each candidate this week to notify them. The nomination puts Henderson "one step closer" to an appointment at the academy, according to his mother, Kristen.

Individuals were selected based on meeting or exceeding the rigorous requirements of the respective academy and Tipton's office.

"The defense of our nation relies solely on voluntary ser-

vice and it's remarkable these students set themselves apart from their peers by striving to be the next generation of military leaders," said Tipton. "I am honored to nominate each and every one of these young men and women to attend the prestigious military academies and wish these exceptional individuals continued success in their careers."

Henderson has another interview with Senator Michael Bennet on Dec. 5.

If accepted to the academy, Henderson will follow in the footsteps of his older brother J.C., who graduated from the Merchant Marine Academy in June 2020.

DEERY ME ...



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTO

When the hunters go to the forest, the deer go to town. Despite this reverse migration, it's been a relatively good hunting season in our estimation, with plenty of antler racks poking out of the backs of muddy pick-up trucks downtown. Of course, if you ask any hunter who didn't fill their tag this year, they'll probably feel differently. There is one combined limited deer/elk season left, which runs Nov. 18 through 22.

FEAST FIXIN'S

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10-12 oz. Mrs. Cubbisons	\$2²⁹
12 oz. Food Club	99¢
20-21 oz. Food Club	\$1⁸⁹
16 oz. Kraft	\$2⁴⁹

Please note: Watts will be **CLOSED** on Thanksgiving. Thank you!

Pumpkin Spice Waffles

- Ingredients:**
1/2 cup Food Club vegetable oil
1/2 cup Food Club sugar
1/2 cup Food Club brown sugar, packed
15 oz. Food Club Pure Pumpkin Puree
2 eggs, separated
1/2 cup milk
1 tsp Pumpkin Pie spice
1 tsp vanilla
1 1/2 cups Food Club all purpose flour
1 Tbsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt



Heat waffle iron to medium heat. In a large bowl mix together oil, sugar, brown sugar, pumpkin, egg yolks and milk until smooth. Add pumpkin pie spice and vanilla. Set aside. In a small bowl mix together flour, baking powder and salt. Slowly add the flour mixture to pumpkin mixture until combined. Set aside. In another small bowl whisk together two egg whites until white, fluffy and soft peaks form. Gently fold egg whites into batter.

Place 3/4-1 cup batter on waffle iron. Cook for 3 minutes. Enjoy with whipped cream, syrup and butter.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Leaders

A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

Between the pandemic and politics, I've thought more about leadership — what it is, what it looks like, what it means — than possibly ever before. The stressors presented to us this year have revealed strength and creativity in some who have found themselves thrust into unexpected leadership roles, and simultaneously exposed weaknesses in others who had an opportunity to shine but have failed to do so.

"Be a leader, not a follower," we all told our children, particularly when it appeared they weren't making the best choices or were yielding to peer pressure, but did we explain to them (or ourselves) what that meant? Did we tell them how to be (or find) good leaders? Did we explain that true leadership isn't always found at the top of the heap? Sometimes the ones at the top of the heap are just bullies and loudmouths.

U.S. Army General Douglas

MacArthur said, "A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent."

Mahatma Ghandi described leadership this way: "I suppose leadership at one time meant muscles; but today it means getting along with people."

All of those quotes, from dramatically different individuals in different times and places and situations, intimate the same idea: leaders are the ones who set the example for others to follow. Good leaders set good examples, and bad leaders set bad examples, or worse... no example at all.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Is this the season to love your neighbor as yourself?

Dear Editor:

Do you remember sneezing and coughing as a child? Your grandmother and mother asked you to cover your mouth so you would not pass on the bugs to somebody else. Your grandmother knew something. Pay attention now.

China is forcing their citizens to cover their mouth and nose with a mask as they are recovering from COVID and their economy is roaring back to productivity, keeping COVID under control. China has a long history of viral outbreaks and for them wearing a mask is normal. A strict and oppressive government hangs drug dealers. Not our way.

In our country, the CDC, Dr. Anthony Fauci, and the State of Colorado all recommend social distancing and wearing masks and avoiding crowds of people. Voluntary compliance, no coercion.

Following the recommendations helps stop and slow the spread of the virus buying time until we have vaccines. The key is to avoid overloading health care facilities and infecting health care workers.

As I shop in Meeker, meeting visitors and locals not wearing masks, I wonder what they are thinking about me, wearing my mask and recently a clear plastic face shield. Do I make them uncomfortable as I follow the recommendations put forward

by the county, state, and federal health authorities? Maybe, maybe not.

I feel somewhat uneasy meeting an unmasked person in a tight spot in public. Who will be at risk of contracting the virus? I do not know...this person may not know that he or she is infected at that moment.

I wish I would not have to face those moments of meeting maskless faces in tight spots at this time in my life... My friend Dr. Kurt Papenfus caught COVID and ended up in a Denver hospital for several days fighting for his life. Quoting him: "The 'Rona (Corona) beast is a very nasty beast and is not fun. It has a very mean temper. It loves a fight, and it loves to keep coming after you," he said.

To those "no-maskers" who walk into the space of others please think about what you are doing as you might spread the virus in this pandemic outbreak. You are at risk too. You might think about it and put on a mask or you might say, "I do not care, my freedom of walking into your space without respecting your desire to avoid the virus is not important to me."

We are not in China. You have the freedom to choose. I very much hope and expect that you choose to protect your neighbors, friends, strangers, and yourself. Step up to love your neighbor and yourself. It is the season.

Albert Krueger, MD
Meeker

Thank you for protecting Western Colorado water

Dear Editor:

The Colorado River District is humbled and grateful for the support voters in our 15 counties showed for protecting Western Colorado water. Measure 7A passed with a district-wide 72% approval. That so many of you agreed with our mission and aspirations went beyond our most hoped-for expectations. We offer our thanks and a pledge to use the money wisely and with great effect in our ongoing efforts to protect West Slope water.

Western Colorado water has been much sought after to the east and the west since our founding at the beginning of the last century. The story has not changed, but the urgency to protect the Colorado River system is magnified with population growth in Colorado and the Southwest, higher

temperatures and the never-ending quest for water supply. Western Colorado cannot become the sacrifice zone for the benefit of others.

We will now have the resources to bolster the basic protections for the Colorado River system that we've always maintained, with the added financial muscle to help our constituents with projects throughout the District and in all areas of water use, including clean reliable drinking water, water for food production and water that supports the environment and our recreation economy.

Water in the arid west is a conservative issue; it's a progressive issue. It's an irrigator's issue and it's a boater's issue. If you brush your teeth, it's an issue. It's everybody's issue, even though it's so easy to take water for granted. We take seriously the trust our constituents have vested in us to be the watchdog of our precious resource.

It takes financial resources, talent and skill to protect the water resources that make Western Colorado the beautiful, vital region we know it to be today. Other people want that resource. We say they will have a big fight to get it, today, tomorrow and into the future.

Thank you for supporting ballot question 7A.

Andy Mueller
General Manager
Colorado River District

Thanks from Lancasters

Dear Editor:

The family of Nick Lancaster would like to thank the Panther Football coaching staff: Paul Fortunato (or Pauly as Nick called him), Keenan LeBleu, Jeremy Lohry, Matt Mercado and Cameron Enterline and the entire 2020 Panther football team for honoring Nick at the third annual Nick Lancaster Memorial football game. A huge thank you to Justyne Peters of Heifer Gang Clothing for designing and Sylvia Dembowski, owner of Get Your Stitch On, for making the hats, sweatshirts and T-shirts and for generously donating a portion of all merchandise sales to the Nick Lancaster Football Memorial Fund three years in a row! A special thanks to Gary and Kathy Staley of Sweetbriar for selling hats and bracelets in their store. A heartfelt thanks to Jeff "Buck" LeBleu for being the voice of

Panther football and delivering Nick's family's message. A final humongous thank you to all the businesses, friends, family, extended family, classmates and Panther football fans who have donated to the Nick Lancaster Memorial Fund. The support and generosity of this community even when times are tough and especially during a pandemic, is truly amazing!

Nick would be deeply humbled with no words to express the gratitude felt, just as we are!

Bleed Green!
The family of Nick Lancaster

Wake up, Meeker

Dear Editor:

As the pandemic grows around us I can't help but send this email in the hope someone will read it and take it seriously. I'm sure if your mom/dad or child was on a ventilator due to COVID you would be more active about taking action, but because it may have not affected you, it's easier to take the lazier approach like past issues and ignore your community.

We have elected county commissioners who we trust to make good choices for us. What does it say when you see them going to the grocery store or post office and they are not even wearing a mask? What does it say when the Governor has mandated a statewide "wear a mask" order and they both ignore it and don't enforce it. They are going against the only protection out there to keep you safe. That tells me they are OK with you getting COVID and possibly dying. They don't care about you.

Have you walked around in the grocery store lately? Apparently the sign outside is about as useful as a knitted condom. People just walk in, breathe all over the food, wear their masks below their nose (since it's so hard to learn how to wear one correctly). No one enforces the rules so of course numbers are going to go up.

There are other public places where people who have known exposures or family members at home who have tested positive and they are going to work (courthouse, food industry and schools). Let's not ignore the big party that took place on Halloween weekend where many were exposed, but no one will bat an eye about how they run their

► See LETTERS, Page 5A



Thank you West Slope voters for approving ballot measure 7A!
Your **YES** vote means the Colorado River District is better able to protect our West Slope water for generations to come. We are already working to launch the District's collaborative water project program.



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COVID-19: student perspectives

By SOPHIA GOEDERT
Special to the Herald Times

RBC I With the rise in cases, COVID-19 has become a hot topic in the community. There's talk of it everywhere — stores, school and restaurants. Here at the school there's a level of uncertainty about whether we have to go home or if we get to stay in school. We often hear the adults' perspectives on COVID-19, but the students' opinion is often not as commonly heard.

The first student interviewed has had a direct experience with the virus. Tatum Kennedy's mother tested positive a little more than two weeks ago and has just recently been able to return to work at Meeker High School. While Tatum was in the two-week quarantine, she spent a lot of time observing her mother's symptoms. "With this, I have noticed the seriousness of the virus, and I now completely understand the protective measures being taken by the community to ultimately protect us," she said. Personally she is not afraid to get the virus, but still has taken all the necessary steps to make sure she is not the one to spread it around the community.

Her recent quarantine was a much needed time to spend with her family. With nothing to do except stay in the house, it was a nice change from their busy schedules. "We never have the chance to sit down to have dinner together. I wish that I could have this time more often," she added. While there was some added stress for Tatum and her younger brothers because of her mom's symptoms, they stuck together and have come out of it closer. While they are all ready for a little time apart, there was a silver lining that came out of their quarantine.

Braydon Garcia, a senior at MHS, was also among those interviewed. Garcia, like Tatum, is not scared to contract COVID-19, but doesn't want to spread it. "I most likely won't know if I'm spreading it or not," he said. According to Garcia the virus hasn't affected him a whole lot. Aside from the fact that most of his summer plans were canceled, he still went to work as usual as well as being, "at his house the normal amount." On the recent rise in cases in the community Braydon says, "We knew this was coming," so he wasn't surprised when the uptake in cases started showing. He does, however, wish that he could go about his senior year as well as other activities like

normal instead of, "People forcing us to live in fear all summer."

Morgan Kehrig, also a senior at MHS, has had COVID-19 affect her the most out of the three. "I lost my great-aunt, my friends lost family members," says Kehrig. Currently she knows two people that are hospitalized, luckily they aren't from Meeker. One is 16 who started having seizures after she contracted the virus. The other is a father of her friend who has developed double pneumonia after catching the virus at work. With all of her close connections to the virus Morgan is worried for our community. "In our small town we have been a little sheltered from this virus. I think as we start to see the effects of COVID-19 first-hand, people will take this more seriously," she stresses.

Now that the seriousness has sunk in as opposed to back in March, she's been even more worried about spreading the virus. Morgan's father has severe health issues that could be detrimental if mixed with COVID-19. Due to the recent rise in cases she hopes, "that this will encourage others to wear a mask in public, if not for themselves, then as respect for others."

One common idea that prevailed through all the interviews was where the students got their information. All of them said they rely on Rio Blanco County Department of Public Health and Environment and the CDC. Their studies take up most of their time so their information intake wasn't a whole lot. Each person had a little different take on the virus, but all are relevant to other students in the school.



Tatum Kennedy



Braydon Garcia



Morgan Kehrig

GUEST COLUMN

Simple Thanksgiving thanks

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I One way to face the likely downsizing or elimination of traditional Thanksgiving celebrations is to mourn our losses and be frustrated. Missing family and close friends at the year's biggest feast is another disappointment when we've already endured many. Yet, with COVID numbers rising across our state, country, and world, we must remain vigilant and continue to adapt.

The other way to handle Thanksgiving in 2020 is to find ways to be thankful for what we do have, however small or routine. Perhaps we take some positive things for granted, perhaps we overlook gestures of kindness, perhaps we assume we will always have everyday resources.

These are a few of my "favorite things" at Thanksgiving 2020 that I give thanks for:

■ COVID has not invaded our county, town, family, or friends to an overwhelming extent. Yes, some folks have been exposed, but thankfully tested negative or recovered. In Meeker, we live in a bubble of safety compared to most of the USA and world.

■ Fiber Wi-Fi and its reliability. Thank you, town leaders, for supporting an internet service that is beyond compare. Never did we need it more than during COVID when all of us are downloading, uploading, zooming, and connecting in every way via

the internet. Not every community can claim this quality of internet service.

■ Community services such as the Food Bank, Christmas Giving Tree, churches, and much more. These organizations and supporters have continued to support those in need in these very tough times. Behind them are generous donations to keep food and other resources flowing.

■ First responders, fire fighters, and all those who support you. Without all your hard work, 2020 could have been even worse. Thank you for fighting fires around Meeker including our neighborhood and across the county and state. You all deserve a special visit from Santa.

■ Medical workers, teachers, retail staff, truck drivers and all the essential workers who keep our lives going. You have faced Covid risks, worked long hours, adapted work practices, and endured. May Santa visit you, too ... or maybe a day off.

■ Our sons who, like many, have worked from home on slow internet connections, faced huge isolation, but kept working including occasional in-person office days despite all the risks of that.

■ Our daughter-in-law, a stay at home mom who has carefully watched over her two young children, provided at home schooling, and done the really tough mommy thing to restrict kids' visits to the playground and all their favorite places while Dad

works down the hall at home.

■ My grandchildren. Of course, I love them and have cancelled trips to visit in person that break my heart. Still, I am grateful for weekly Facetime sessions with grandson Grayson, age 5, that always warm our hearts. Also, thanks to our local library that lends age appropriate books we can read during these calls. It's all free!

■ Phone calls with my 95-year-old mom in her retirement home that are the best we can do since we live 2,000 miles apart. Our conversations are not too exciting, but we connect, and she knows I care about her during her continued lockdown status.

■ Our local rec center for affordable membership and outstanding classes. Both my husband and I have committed to working out routinely where it is clean, safe, and friendly, not a pricey gym.

■ Those who have passed on. Both Jay and I both lost our dads near Thanksgiving, yet both lived healthy lives into their 90s. I give thanks for the fine men they were, serving their country during WWII, and providing examples of selfless survival even in the toughest of times.

Thanksgiving 2020 may not be our ultimate hopes or fulfill our traditional practices or include our loved ones. Let's fill in with more simple thanks. Thank you for reading and your many kind comments about my *Herald Times* articles. I wish you many blessings this holiday. Happy Thanksgiving!

From an ER physician: COVID is no hoax and no joke; an experience to be missed

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Former Pioneers Medical Center emergency room physician Kurt Papenfus, MD, was recently released to his home in Cheyenne Wells to continue recuperating after a week's stay in a Denver hospital while battling COVID-19. He was interviewed by friend and part-time Meeker resident James Magid by telephone last week, who shared Papenfus' thoughts with the *HT*.

"This COVID SARS2 virus is the meanest, nastiest, hunter-killer virus ever. It is everywhere and nowhere: it is hunting you right now.

It is hard for people to realize that they are the prey. If you have been trained for combat, special forces or Navy Seals, you know

what it is to be 100% on guard all the time, because you know what it is like to be hunted yourself. In combat there is no trivial activity, but 100% concentration on the mission and security.

It is too bad to remind people that this level of attention is now necessary in everyday life, but our survival depends on it.

I know, because I trained Tenth Special Forces Groups in mountain medicine, and those who learned their lessons survived. And now I recommend that my friends take this stuff seriously.

Currently I have been in the hospital in Denver for a week, hoping I recover from a severe experience with Covid. I survived several very scary and close calls. I have been in "hand-to-hand" combat with this thing,

and I am determined to survive and help others when I recover. Take it seriously."

Papenfus, 63, hopes that his comments will influence more members of our community to take this thing seriously, and avoid the normal trivial activities and concentrate on surviving this killer that is hunting us.

His story is a reminder that the effects of COVID-19 extend beyond individual cases and outcomes. In an interview with Colorado Public Radio, Papenfus explained that while he is out sick, Keefe Memorial Hospital in Cheyenne County is without a full-time emergency room doctor — in the middle of a pandemic — and the Lincoln Community Hospital in Hugo where he worked shifts is also short a doctor.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Forest health and watershed impacts

Forests play a major role in natural systems. Forests can protect watershed health and function, provide suitable habitat for numerous wildlife species, promote a robust logging industry, provide soil erosion control, supply forage for livestock, and offer endless recreational opportunities. While healthy forests provide these benefits, a mismanaged or unhealthy forest poses a grave threat to natural resources and all that depend upon them.

A healthy forest consists of trees of all ages, sizes, and multiple species. Forest management promotes diversity and healthy regrowth for future generations. The health of the local watershed relies on the health of the forests. Trees help hold water, increasing percolation while decreasing run-off. This increases ground water for recharge into important aquifers. Trees and their root systems also provide a filtration system, keeping water clean as it enters the watershed.

A monoculture (one species) increases the chances of a devastating disease or parasite and limits resilience due to natural disasters. A monoculture and excessive tree density allows for quick dispersal of common pests like Pine beetles. The Pine beetle can affect large tracts of forest, creating massive areas covered in dead standing trees, as we have seen across the Rocky Mountains. Dead forests provide greater wildfire potential like we have witnessed this year. Following a large wildfire, soil erosion increases significantly with no vegetation to hold it in place.

Therefore, forests must be managed. Selective timber harvesting, livestock grazing, and prescribed burns are common methods for managing forests to promote optimal forest health and provide economic stability. Proactive forest management can prevent epidemic infestations, decrease the risk of fire, reduce sediment run-off, and improve the quality of local water. Visit <https://www.whiterivercd.com/forestry.html> or scan the zapcode for more forest related information.



LETTERS: continued

► Continued from Page 4A

lives. They are free to give it to everyone else because they fell outside of the testing phase of 48 hours. What a sorry excuse.

Wake up, Meeker. COVID isn't going away soon. Are you waiting for your family to be on a ventilator before you wear a mask? "I hate masks, they are annoying." Try being on a ventilator and then let's chat about how hard it is to breathe. Say goodbye to a loved one

via iPad because you can't go see them and then tell me you want to continue "not wearing a mask." You think you are good enough to go without a mask, think again.

I hope you don't ignore this. This is a lot of people in your community, people who vote for you, speaking up. Hear us loud and clear!

Ellie Bennett
Meeker

Exalting Christ's Position (2)

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

... God hath highly exalted him ... (Phil. 2:9-11)



■ Dr. J.D. Watson

THE third feature of our Lord's exaltation in our text is the *response* to his exaltation (2:10-11a). Verse 10 provides another clue to the **name which is above every name**. At this name, every single **knee** in the universe will **bow**. This will be the fulfillment, in fact, of Isaiah 45:22-23: "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear."

Paul expounds on that very truth by specifying three classes of beings who will bow before Messiah. First, those **in heaven** will bow, which includes all the redeemed saints who are already there as well as the 10,000 times 10,000 angels who are there (Rev. 4:8-11; 5:8-12). Second, those **in earth** will bow, which includes both believers and unbelievers who are still on this planet. Third, those **under the earth** will bow, which includes the exact opposite of those **in heaven**; these are the unbelievers and fallen angels who are now in hell awaiting final judgment and eternal punishment.

But Paul is not done. Not only will all creatures **bow** before this name, but **every tongue** will also **confess** it. **Tongue** is *glossa*, which refers to human language. So, every single individual, whatever his or her language or ethnicity, will **confess** Christ. **Confess** (*exomologeō*) is an intensified form of *homologeō*, which literally means to say the same words. So, every individual will admit the Truth, will actually agree with God on who Christ is. Think of it! Every being in the universe, in one way or another, will

bow before Christ and acknowledge exactly who He is. The believer will do it *freely* in adoration, while the unbeliever will be *forced* to do it even in his rebellion and condemnation.

Paul finally reaches the climax to which he has been building. What is the **name** that is above all others? At what name will all creatures **bow** and **confess**? It is not **Jesus**, as wonderful as that name is. This was actually a common name and implied no superiority. The name, of course, is **Lord**.

The significance of this word cannot be overemphasized. This great title, **Lord** (*kurios*) was the number one confession of the Early Church, the title of majesty, authority, honor, and sovereignty. As Peter declared: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36). Paul elsewhere proclaimed the essential doctrine of the Lordship of Christ in salvation: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Rom. 10:9). The Lordship of Christ is, indeed, a critical doctrine of Scripture, so we will conclude that thought next time.

Scriptures for Study: What do each of the following verses declare about Christ's Lordship: Luke 2:11; John 13:13; John 20:28; Acts 2:36; Acts 10:36?

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

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Church Service 11am Sun.

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TUESDAY • NOV. 24
Turkey w/ gravy, garlic mashed potatoes w/ gravy, french green beans, pumpkin pie w/ topping

WEDNESDAY • NOV. 25
Variety soup, cooks choice sandwich on wheat, tropical fruit, crackers

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

Please recycle this newspaper.

Seizure first aid can help save a life

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Epilepsy is the underlying tendency of the brain to produce seizures, which are sudden abnormal bursts of electrical energy that disrupt brain function. There are many different causes but often the cause is unknown.

Anyone can have a seizure and be diagnosed with epilepsy — any person at any age. According to the World Health Organization, epilepsy is the most common serious brain disorder worldwide with no age, racial, social class, national or geographic boundaries. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates 3.4 million people in the United States are affected by epilepsy. Yet, the idea of a seizure is unsettling to most people, and millions would have no idea what to do in the event of witnessing a seizure. Compared to the general population, people with seizures are 30 percent more likely to have accidental injuries and have twice the risk of dying.

Large scale public education

on seizure first aid is urgent and critical. By knowing seizure first aid, you can help decrease the number of injuries from seizures and help people with epilepsy feel safer in their communities. Simply put, a public educated in seizure first aid will protect and save lives.

For years, the Epilepsy Foundation has partnered with the CDC to build nationwide programs to ensure school personnel, first responders, seniors, caregivers and the public are better trained to recognize seizures and administer first aid. The Epilepsy Foundation recently launched the first and only Seizure Recognition and First Aid certification training geared toward the general public. The goal of the certification program, which is available for free through instructor-led live webinars, is to educate everyone on the Epilepsy Foundation's approved procedures for recognizing seizures and responding safely to someone having a seizure.

The Seizure Recognition and First Aid certification program incorporates the Epilepsy

Foundation's new approach to seizure first aid — #StaySafeSide — which is tailored to seizures with change in consciousness, awareness, movements, behaviors and setting. Providing accurate training for recognizing seizures and safely administering seizure first aid is part of the Epilepsy Foundation's efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of people with epilepsy.

Most everyone knows someone with epilepsy, so it is time to educate ourselves and advocate for others — the people we know and the people we don't yet know who have epilepsy and live with seizures. By knowing how to recognize a seizure and getting certified on seizure first aid, people can help decrease the number of injuries from seizures and help those with epilepsy feel safer in their communities.

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Take this time to educate those around you about seizure first aid and get seizure first aid certified. For more information or to sign up for a free training visit Epilepsy.com/firstaid.

OBITUARY

David LaVerne Dorsey

April 11, 1945 ~ Nov. 14, 2020



David Dorsey

David was very proud to have been born in the Paonia hospital (Yes, there was one! Located on Main Street, later the home of Dr. Don Ridgeway) on April 11, 1945, to Vern and Mildred (Abbott) Dorsey. He died in the Delta Hospital and went home to be with Jesus on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020, at the age of 75, after contracting COVID-19 a week earlier.

David, a fourth generation North Fork Valley native, lived mostly in Paonia. His great-grandparents came to Paonia in 1898. Around his first five years of life, he lived up on the West Muddy, a mile south of the West Muddy Ranger Station. The next few years were spent on Black Mesa, when his Dad (Vern) was partners in a sawmill business with his cousins Al, Ernest and Pat Conkle. Around the age of 11, the family moved to town in Paonia, living at 420 Delta Avenue for the next 40-plus years.

David attended the schools in Paonia, graduating from Paonia High School in 1963. He attended Mesa College in Grand Junction for around a year and a half, taking drafting and trigonometry. Upon coming back to Paonia, there was a pretty young waitress that worked at Mom's Kitchen on Third Street who caught his eye. He would come to the restaurant most every day to get his 10 cent cup of coffee, which he enjoyed for hours (with several free refills!). He made the waitress think he was rich when he tipped her 25 cents! They fell in love, and he and the waitress (Charlene Jean Schroeder) got married a few months later at the Paonia Christian Church (where David attended since childhood) in the year 1966. As newlyweds, Charlene asked which brand of coffee he wanted her to buy. He said, "I don't even like coffee!" On Sept. 30 this year they celebrated 54 years of marriage. To this union was born a son, Tom, and a daughter, (his "Dolly") Suelyn.

David worked several jobs in his early years. He was known for having a very high work ethic and passed those values on to his kids. If a job was worth doing, it was worth doing right. His first job at age 14 was at the Conoco gas station formerly just south of the Bross Hotel, later working at the Chevron owned by his Dad's cousin Pat Conkle (at the current UBB bank drive-up on Grand Avenue), he drove school bus shortly out of high school on the

Garvin Mesa route, delivered gasoline when it was 25 cents a gallon, worked at the sawmill in Hotchkiss (on Back River Road, currently a gravel pit), and Chapman's Garage on Third Street (north of the current Mexican restaurant) as a mechanic for 13½ years. He was in the first batch of the original employees hired by the West Elk Mine as an underground welder, electrician and mechanic on the long wall. When West Elk laid off most of their workforce in 1986, he tried having a mechanic shop at their house, which failed only because of all the free work he did for people. He then worked at the Deserado Mine in Rangely for six years, driving home on the weekends. And finally at the Bear Mine and Oxbow Mine, where he was forced to retire early due to health issues in 2006. His fellow miners nicknamed him "Digger Dave." If there was something that needed fixed, he knew how to do it, and if necessary even machined a precision part for the repair using his metal lathe.

When David wasn't working, he could be found going to yard sales. He found lots of "treasures" over the years. Even years later, he could tell you where he got different things he bought...and for how much! He loved visiting, and would talk to strangers for hours learning their life story.

He always had his pockets full of different little tools and his shirt-pocket full of things he might need (flashlight, magnets, screwdrivers, you name it, he had it!).

His daughter learned at an early age not to ask him how something worked. She wanted the short "Reader's Digest version." Dad would go into great detail explaining every mechanical aspect of it, always pulling out a piece of paper or a napkin to draw it out. She got where she'd tell him (as he was explaining), "that's good enough." He could tell she wasn't "getting it" and would keep going on and on until it was fully explained.

David had great pride in going

to watch his son Tom's baseball and basketball games. As Tom grew up, they played catch for hours every night after supper, no doubt helping Tom be such a great pitcher!

He would always admire the clothes Mom sewed for herself, her kids or grandkids, saying she sure "built it well." He'd brag on her sewing to anyone that would listen, and later his daughter's as well.

David enjoyed spending time with his three grandsons after Tom died. When they spent the night at Grandpa and Grandma's, they'd lay on the grass and watch the stars on warm summer nights. He later enjoyed his three grandkids from his daughter as well. David and Charlene lived in the same house for the last 48 years.

David is survived by his wife Charlene of the family home; sister Linda Dorsey of Eugene, Oregon; brother Norm Dorsey of Kino Bay, Mexico; brothers-in-law Melvin Cunningham and Jim (Jeannie) Schroeder; sister-in-law Myrmeta Schroeder; daughter Suelyn and husband Marvin Pemberton of Paonia; and six grandchildren: Joel Dorsey (Rangely, Colorado), Josh Dorsey (Grand Junction, Colorado), Jeremiah Dorsey (Paonia, Colorado), Rachel Pemberton (Delta, Colorado), Timothy Pemberton (Delta, Colorado) and Sarah Pemberton (Paonia, Colorado) along with several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents (Vern and Mildred Dorsey), an infant son (Jeremiah Timothy in 1969), an adult son, (Thomas David in 1992) from cancer at the age of 25, and five grandbabies (Rebekah, Isaac, Stephen, Titus and Tabitha Pemberton)

A private family burial has taken place due to Covid. The family is hoping to have a public service next spring, possibly on his birthday in April. Taylor Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

We're compiling a memory book and would treasure any memories you'll take time to share! Memories or condolences can be sent to Charlene at 42798 Minnesota Creek Rd. in Paonia, or by email at d.c.dorsey@hotmail.com or his daughter Suelyn Pemberton at 170 Hwy. 133, Paonia (her email is waterbuffalo93@hotmail.com)

OBITUARY POLICY:

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



SHOP @ HOME

FOR THE HOLIDAYS

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Shop at Home for the Holidays is a five week sweepstakes that gives local shoppers the opportunity to win Holiday Bucks to spend at local businesses!

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One Meeker resident and one Rangely resident will win **\$50 in Holiday Bucks** every week of our Shop@Home promo!

How it works:

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ERBM shuts down after staff COVID-19 outbreak

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

LAP POOL LEAK

Rec District Executive Director Sean VonRoenn shared the latest on a leak from the Meeker Rec Center Lap Pool. After some emergency repair work was approved by the board of directors during their October meeting, R&R Aquatics returned to perform temporary repairs of surface cracks in the lap pool.

During that project on Oct. 20 and 21, R&R Aquatics indicated that the main source of the leak was not the surface cracks, but the main fill line. R&R then installed a plug on the line and assisted with other steps to temporarily bypass the main fill line as an "operational workaround." Eventually the main fill line needs to be repaired.

R&R returned again a week later to "locate the exact placement of the leak to assist in estimating a final repair recommendation." During that visit a subcontractor with R&R performed various tests and isolated the leak to "just outside the Pump Room door, approximately 1 foot, 8 inches below the surface." Total leak-related inspection and repair work to date totals \$10,009.06.

Thus far staff has recommended completing the more extensive repair work during a maintenance shutdown closure planned for May 2021. A full resurfacing of the lap pool is also scheduled that same week. A reopening date is still to be determined until more is known about what the main fill line repair might entail. Director vonRoenn also noted that contingencies would need to be built into the project in case something

like a structural analysis needed to be done. Currently the district has \$70,000 earmarked for the project.

Since the project will cost more than \$60,000, it will need to be publicly bid in 2021 before contracting and scheduling can occur. ERBM staff will present the Board of Directors with an official repair cost estimate in December.

PROJECT UPDATES

The Rec Center Roof project is proceeding and scheduled to wrap on Nov. 30. Due to weather, and some "unanticipated work stoppages" the Circle Park pond project could get delayed, but contractor TDA is hopeful to still wrap by the end of the year. VonRoenn said staff was pursuing a potential easement contract extension with the Cemetery District in case final work is not completed in December.

2021 BOARD CALENDAR

The calendar presented by staff includes the board's regular meeting schedule for 2021, a February workshop on a "new cost recovery and fee proposal," and a May workshop to kick-start budget forecasting and planning for the 2022 budget. The calendar will be finalized for adoption by the board in December.

GOLF ASSOCIATION REPORT

Rio Blanco County Golf Association "had a terrific year" according to board president Kyle Hooks. Hooks talked about the success of the junior golf program, 12 new carts leased from Yamaha this year, and a few course mainte-

nance/repair projects. The RBC Golf Association did not request much funding from the rec district for 2021 aside from \$2,000 for junior clubs and other related accessories which was approved by the board.

FINANCIALS

Tax revenues are a little short, Director Strate said he wasn't sure if the rest would come in noting that the district "usually over collects projected tax revenues."

In total revenue the district should be "in a good spot" according to Strate.

For personnel the district is expecting to end up around \$2,000 in the black.

The district overspent by \$5,000 on minor equipment but underspent on other items under equipment and supplies.

Staff said revenue/expenditure projections for 2020 "look pretty good."

The board also reviewed vouchers related to the pond project that will leave the district "with approximately \$100,000 less." Strate added that the district could get that money back after submitting for a grant from the state. Other vouchers reviewed were for legal fees, including ongoing fees being incurred due to "a lot of back and forth between the state and our water attorney," according to Strate.

Final costs discussed were just over \$1,000 for a generator, a "minor furniture purchase" and a cost for credit card fraud after someone used a district card to make a fraudulent purchase that was expected to be refunded to the district.

Rangely Food Bank update

By **ROXIE FROMANG**
Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY I Every day, Food Bank of the Rockies works tirelessly to fight hunger and feed hope throughout Colorado and Wyoming. They provide more than 56 million meals to more than 593,239 individuals every year. They ensure everyone who is food insecure knows they can get the help they need.

On Nov. 5 Rangely residents were surprised with an early Food Bank of the Rockies delivery. Normally, participating Rangely residents would submit a proxy form to the Rio Blanco County/Colorado State University Extension Family Consumer Science Coordinator Jayda Lewis each month and she would deliver the food from the Meeker Mobile Food Pantry to Rangely. With the help of local volunteers food has been distributed throughout the Rangely area. Because of a steady increase in need over the past several months, Rangely will now be holding their own Food Bank of the Rockies Mobile Pantry on the first Thursday of every month. Lewis says a proxy form will no longer be required if you are picking up your own food box. Food recipients will now only be required to sign The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) form at the time of pick up or delivery. There are no eligibility requirements for the Mobile Food Pantry. Times and location of the Rangely Mobile Food Pantry are yet to be determined. If you have questions, would like to volunteer, or would like to receive food assistance with this program you can contact Jayda Lewis at 970-878-9499 or Jayda.lewis@rbc.us.

Food Bank of the Rockies is unable to accept donations as they lack volunteer power and means necessary to store, sanitize, and repack donations from private individuals. Instead, please host a virtual food drive. You can learn more about virtual food drives by visiting www.foodbankrockies.org/give/give-food/.

Town discusses reserves, speed limits

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

MEEKER I The 2021 Town of Meeker budget will dip into reserves to balance the budget if approved in December. Town staff presented the budget to the board of trustees Tuesday, Nov. 17. Changes can still be made between now and Dec. 14. "The focus will be on maintenance more than capital improvements," the budget states.

Mayor Kent Borchard said he has been in conversation with a traffic engineer from Colorado

Department of Transportation about the possibility of moving the reduced speed from 65mph to 50mph out past the intersection to Pioneers Medical Center. The sign is currently south of the hospital and the turnoff to County Rd. 8.

CDOT recommends placing a radar speed feedback sign in the area to let people know they need to slow down.

Borchard also addressed the recent surge in COVID-19 cases in Meeker and encouraged everyone to abide by public health recommendations, including wearing masks and social distancing.

Business owners who have trouble with customers refusing to comply can call the Meeker Police Department if needed.

Neighboring Mesa County has been moved into the "red" zone because of increasing case counts and hospitalizations, which affects which businesses can remain open, school closures, and more. Moffat County has been moved to "orange" as of Tuesday.

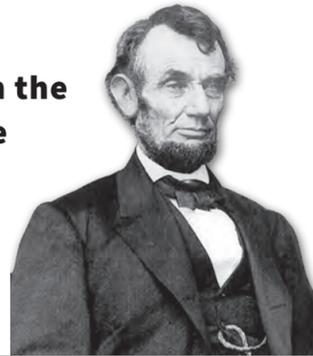
The board agreed to split the remaining \$5,600 of CARES funds between the Meeker Chamber, Chuckwagon, and Meals on Wheels.

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RIO BLANCO COUNTY COVID-19 STATS AS OF NOVEMBER 11, 2020

MEEKER ACTIVE CASES

44

RANGELY ACTIVE CASES

5

CURRENT HOSPITALIZATIONS

1

TOTAL CASES (SINCE 4/1/20)

90

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT

3

RANGELY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1

Rio Blanco County is currently experiencing a community outbreak of COVID-19.

Everyone is advised to CANCEL NON-ESSENTIAL GATHERINGS, remain at home if possible, wear a mask, and social distance in all other situations. Let's work together to keep Rio Blanco County OPEN.

Testing Options:

FREE drive-up testing is available in Meeker at the Fairfield Center AND in Rangely at Public Health every **Monday** through Friday from 10 to 11 a.m., weekends by appt.

Please call 970-878-9520 in Meeker or 970-878-9525 in Rangely for an appointment.



Confirming elections in Colorado begins with the roll of a dice

BY AUSTIN LAMMERS
Colorado News Collaborative

RBC I On Monday morning, employees of the Secretary of State's Office convened to roll a 10-sided dice 20 times, creating a sequence of numbers, or a "seed," to determine which ballots the counties must check to confirm the accuracy of the 2020 election.

It's the first step in what's called a risk-limiting audit — a procedure that compares votes on paper ballots with results collected by vote-counting machines to scan for discrepancies and correct erroneous tabulations. The public can even watch a livestream of the meeting, one more way the state

promotes transparency.

The counties finished counting votes Friday. The audit results are due to the state by Nov. 24.

"Every election administration in the U.S. has a goal of conducting a secure, safe and accurate election," Colorado's Deputy Election Director Hilary Rudy said. "A risk-limiting audit helps confirm that that did, in fact, happen."

Colorado was the first state to require such audits with a law approved in 2009. The statewide election in November 2017 was the first time any state performed a risk-limiting audit on the ballot count. The 2020 election is the first for a presidential general election.

There are two other states that

require in state law a post-election risk-limiting audit. And nine additional states have the option to perform them or have instituted pilot programs, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures, a Denver-based bipartisan organization.

The risk-limiting audit is more time- and cost-efficient than hand-count audits, which is the other type of post-election audit that states conduct, according to Neal McBurnett, a Boulder-based voting systems expert who helped implement the nation's first risk-limiting audit.

"We use computers and/or fallible humans to tabulate our ballots," McBurnett said. "With any process — especially ones that use computers and that are vulnerable — we should double-check the results. It's as simple as that."

How the risk-limiting audit works in Colorado

First, the dice is rolled, then the ballots with the corresponding numbers are pulled. County audit boards — each composed of one Democrat and one Republican — manually review those ballots and report voter markings to the secretary of state using audit software. If the markings on those ballots

match the outcome recorded by the voting system, that's good. If they don't, the audit board compares additional ballots until the outcome is confirmed. This is a comparison risk-limiting audit.

Counties with older systems that don't read or export a voting record use a ballot-polling risk-limiting audit. This audit performs the same process, only the ballots are compared with the sample of the reported winner instead of the voting system, similar to an exit poll.

"You want to take a statistical sample of the ballots and say 'Does this match the outcome?'" McBurnett said. "That's why we do audits, in a nutshell."

The audit concludes when it finds strong evidence that the outcome is correct, or when it finds the opposite, prompting a full recount by hand.

What's the point of a post-election audit?

"You don't run a risk-limiting audit because there was a problem," Ben Adida, executive director of nonprofit VotingWorks, said Tuesday in a webinar. "You run a risk-limiting audit to build more confidence in the outcome."

Before Colorado's first risk-limiting audit in 2017, the

Secretary of State's Office randomly selected voting systems for an audit but didn't expand the audit to a full count. This lowered the chance of finding incorrect outcomes, much less correcting them, according to the U.S. Elections Assistance Commission. Risk-limiting audits consider contest margins and errors discovered by the audit, yielding a minimum of missing incorrect outcome, called a "risk limit."

Secretary of State Jena Griswold established the risk limit for this election at 4%, which means auditors will scan ballots until there's a 96% chance the audit yields a correct outcome. In the 2018 election, the limit was 5%.

The 5% is the highest level allowed in law for statewide elections, but Rudy said Griswold chose the lower number because the auditing process is relatively new and she wanted lower risk limits for these first few audits.

"You start with the assumption that there must be an incorrect outcome, and you audit until you disprove it or correct it," Rudy said. "If we go through the first round and have found enough discrepancies that we haven't met

the risk limit, then we conduct a second round, and continue conducting rounds until we meet the risk limit."

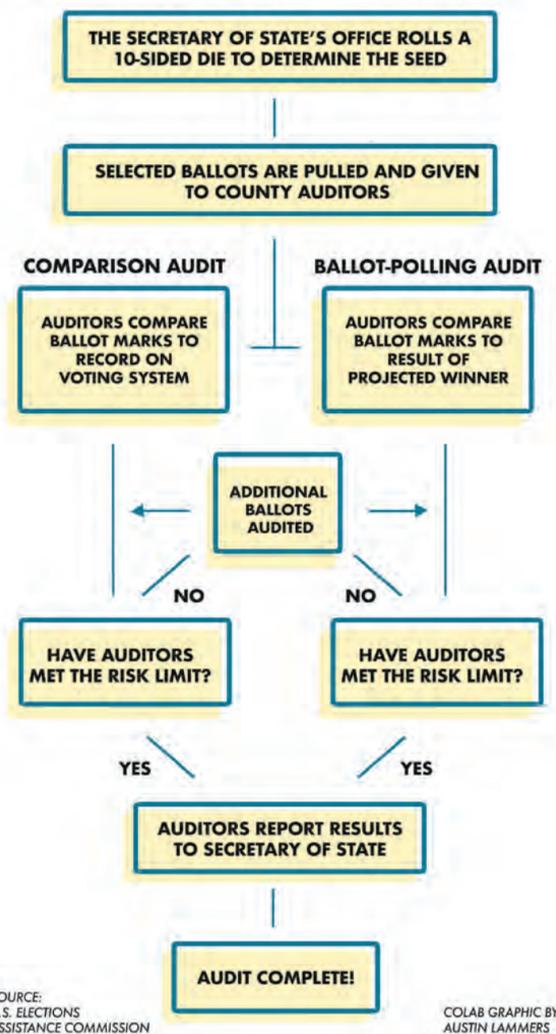
In the six previous audits performed by the state — the 2020 general election will be the seventh — auditors have found discrepancies on ballots such as dissimilar signatures and circles instead of bubbles but no incorrect outcomes, Rudy said.

While these audits rarely discover incorrect outcomes, ballot discrepancies may educate election officials on ways to improve voting instructions and ballot layouts, said Tammy Patrick, senior elections adviser for the Democracy Fund and a former county election official, during the webinar.

"Oftentimes that's what was problematic, not the machine misreading the area the voter was supposed to mark in," Patrick said.

This story is brought to you by COLab, the Colorado News Collaborative, and Election SOS, a national program supporting journalists during the 2020 election. COLab is a nonprofit coalition of more than 90 newsrooms across Colorado working together to better serve the public, including The Colorado Sun.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS



SOURCE:
U.S. ELECTIONS
ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

COLAB GRAPHIC BY
AUSTIN LAMMERS

Understanding abandoned water rights

By PHIL BRINK AND GREG PETERSON

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Every 10 years, the Colorado Division of Water Resources' (DWR) publishes its water right abandonment list. The list — released on July 1, 2020 — represents water rights that each division engineer is recommending for abandonment based on real or perceived non-use over the last 10 years. A water right may be placed on the abandonment list if the amount of water diverted over the past 10 years is less than the decreed amount.

The DWR defines abandonment as "the termination of an absolute water right in whole or in part as a result of the intent of the owner to permanently discontinue the use of the water under that water right." It is rare that an agricultural water right holder actually intends to abandon their water right.

"There can be several reasons why the decreed amount is not diverted in a given year or for multiple years," says water attorney David Kueter of Holsinger Law in Denver. The water source may be dry, or the water right may not be in priority at times when the field needs to be irrigated. Timely precipitation may reduce the need

for irrigation. Repair or replacement of irrigation infrastructure — from headgates to ditches to land application equipment — may temporarily prevent diversion of water. Economic, health or legal obstacles can all stymie intentions to fully utilize a water right. Sediment and debris flows can block diversion structures and river and stream hydrology can change, rendering a diversion structure semi-functional or even non-functional. New property owners may not be aware of their water rights.

Management changes can also impact use. A few years ago, Mike Camblin, rancher and manager of the Maybell Ditch, took over irrigation of some fields that had not been fertilized previously. The addition of fertilizer increased grass production three-fold, which also increased the field's consumptive use of water.

Increased consumptive use may also result from warmer summers, which are predicted by climate models. CSU research has found that evapotranspiration comprises more than 99 percent of plant water use. Increased temperatures drive forage and crop consumptive use higher. Cutting ag water rights down to their current consumptive use will permanently hurt growers' ability to adapt to a warmer climate.

Water users who wish to challenge termi-

nation of their water right due to abandonment should file a written statement of objection with the Division 6 Engineer. An objection statement is needed for each water right. The deadline for filing is July 1, 2021, but Kueter recommends getting started now as it may take time to pull together supporting evidence. "Usually there are no silver bullets," says Kueter, "it's more the totality of the circumstances that caused the water right to be under-utilized."

A water right is removed from the abandonment list if the Division Engineer agrees with the supporting evidence provided. A revised abandonment list will be published by Jan. 31, 2022. Protests to the revised list must be filed with division Water Court by June 30, 2022. The Water Court will begin considering protests in October 2022.

The Colorado Ag Water Alliance will be hosting a workshop on this and other issues on Dec. 7 in Craig.

Phil Brink is the Consulting Coordinator of Colorado Cattlemen's Ag Water NETWORK. Greg Peterson is the Executive Director of Colorado Ag Water Alliance.

COUNTY BEAT

BY LUCAS TURNER
lucas@ht1885.com

RBC I On Nov. 10 during a work session with Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners, HT staff met the board to address concerns over allegations of misrepresenting information to the public. Editor Niki Turner started by presenting the commissioners with the HT's Corrections Policy, stating, "if you have determined that we've made a factual error in our reporting, you are welcome and encouraged to call us, contact, email, something," she said, adding, "No one's ever asked us for that from this office. We've never had a call about factual inaccuracy in our reporting. If you have other concerns about what we've written, how stories are written, what we've said, you're more than welcome to submit an open letter to the editor."

After some back and forth about journalistic ethics, and clarifying the details of a previous budget story, the board thanked the HT for making them aware of the policy and agreed to move forward. Chairman Rector said, "So let's try to make a better effort at that on both sides, to see

if we can get our community better informed about what's really going on." You can find the HT's Corrections Policy on our website at <https://www.theheraldtimes.com/about-the-herald-times/correction-policy/>

No corrections requests have been received to-date from the board.

During the work session commissioners interviewed two candidates for the Columbine Park Board of Directors with candidates Candra Robie and Megan Davis. They also heard from Trina Zagar Brown of White River Electric Association (WREA). Brown asked the board to greenlight work on two fiber splicing projects, including one for the "east ridge loop," that will add redundancy to the county's 911 system. Rector used chairman authority to greenlight the project.

Through use agreements, RBC utilizes WREA's fiber network throughout Rio Blanco County. Specifically, providing fiber connections to RBC from Meeker to Rangely, Meeker to LOBO Mountain, Meeker to Piceance Creek and the east ridge route from Curtis Creek to LOBO. WREA and RBC had

previously discussed options for RBC to enter into a use agreement to utilize WREA's County Road 8 fiber but due to current budget constraints RBC has no immediate plans to include this fiber into their Broadband Project. RBC successfully serves customers along County Road 8 with a wireless broadband product which appears to meet the majority of the internet needs in those areas.

Tuesday's discussion confirmed details for the interconnect at Curtis Creek to ensure that there are sufficient connections for if and when commercial internet is provided up County Road 8. WREA will share more information with its members as it continues to explore options for possible fiber connections along County Road 8.

During the regular meeting, the board:

■ Approved a request for reimbursement (RFR) for the Meeker Airport Coulter Field Project for a total of \$1,473.75.

■ Approved the 2020 Meeker Holiday Market Event plan. Commissioners Moyer and Woodruff voted in favor. Commissioner Woodruff voted against the approval after questions about whether or not the event plan had been approved by Public Health.

■ Approved a task order from HDR engineering for the Meeker

Airport Drainage Project, for an amount of \$31,393.68, for a new contract total of \$6,973,509.04.

■ Chose to table a letter to Bill deVergie of Colorado Parks and Wildlife in support of a conservation and access easement on land owned by Mike and Tena Theos, Coal Creek Ranch. Commissioner Moyer asked to table the discussion until deVergie was able to attend and answer questions. "The amount of ground in Rio Blanco County that's already under [conservation] easement. That is a little concerning" said Moyer, noting that he might prefer to stay neutral on the matter.

■ Approved a Final Contractor Settlement totaling \$10,054.49 to GMCO, Inc. for the 2020 Dust Control Project.

■ Approved a support letter to the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement, Office of Fossil Energy regarding Energia Costa Azul's application to amend long-term authorization to export natural gas to Mexico and to reexport liquefied natural gas from Mexico to non free trade agreement nations. Chairman Rector said "This is something we've all been working on for a while," adding "hopefully in the future we'll get gas exported out of Oregon as well."

NEW & UPDATED

the conservation easements keep property at a "very low tax base."

"We have 78% of our ground in RBC is public lands," said Rector. "I would be more apt to do something with mitigating wild horses. At the end of the day if we want to talk about what's beating our wildlife back it's the wild horses. We're already one of the largest easement holders in the state."

Woodruff said he was inclined to support deVergie's request.

The board voted 2-1 to deny the letter of support and will draft a letter neither supporting nor opposing the easement.

COUNTY POSITIONS

Commissioners approved advertisements for three new/updated positions in the county, starting with a full-time emergency manager and natural resources position, which is a combination of two formerly distinct departments. Next they approved an advertisement for a full-time public information and program manager position. Commissioner Moyer explained that the role would serve under the commissioners, not as a department head. He said the employee would deal with public information, the grant management over White River Roundup, and "commissioner coordination." Commissioners also approved an advertisement for a part-time treasury clerk position. All positions are subject to approval as part of the 2021 budget appropriation.

MOU'S, CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

The board renewed a memorandum of understanding with Prowers County Hotline County Connection Center to answer and process Child Welfare related Hotline calls for Rio Blanco County for 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$4018.

OTHER BUSINESS

Road & Bridge Director Dave Morlan shared a Road and Bridge Report with commission-

NOV. 10 MEETING

ers. Aside from general maintenance including a little snow plowing, the department entered an intergovernmental agreement with the Game and Fish to "haul some 3-inch to up around [Lake] Avery." The department has all its plow trucks ready to go for the winter. Work items in the Rangely district included more general maintenance, and repairs on county roads 109 and 65. Morlan also gave an update on the landfill, which he said was busy cleaning up windblown trash and winterizing equipment.

The County Road 7 bridge replacement is complete and "getting a lot of good public comments." Morlan also said upriver bridge maintenance was underway to pour concrete on the back walls on the abutments underneath the bridges.

Morlan shared info about work on "Stock Pass 3" which is still in the design phase, a project which would be funded by a grant from the state Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). In a recent meeting, Morlan says DOLA asked if the project could still be complete with only partial funding. Morlan says he told them that it could not.

The Board then entered executive session to discuss HR issues with County Attorney Todd Starr and HR Director Laura Smith.

NOV. 17 MEETING

■ Approved an agreement for services with Hilltop Community Resources for structured parenting time in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

■ Approved annexation of nearly 14 acres near Rangely to better comply with the land use plan. The property zoning will change from agricultural to industrial.

The board adjourned and reconvened as the county Board of Health. Read that story on [Page 1A](#).

BY NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

RBC I In work sessions, the regular board meeting and a Board of Health meeting on Tuesday in Rangely, Commissioner Gary Moyer presided over the meeting while Commission Chair Jeff Rector was quarantined awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test and Commissioner Si Woodruff participated by telephone.

Commissioners discussed revisions to the county's personnel handbook with Human Resources Director Laura Smith that include

social media use and security guidelines and required changes from the state surrounding sick leave.

The board is still in discussion with Chuck Whiteman about a lease for the Cathedral Tower broadband site. Commissioner Woodruff said he thought remaining issues with the contract could be resolved through a meeting with Whiteman, himself, and the county attorney.

During the regular board meeting, commissioners were asked to approve a letter of support for a conservation easement on property

owned by Mike and Tena Theos. Colorado Parks and Wildlife Area Manager Bill deVergie said the easement, which would be adjacent to another conservation easement property, would protect the property from future development and "create a good wildlife corridor." Additionally, it would provide for some public fishing access and limited public hunting.

The Theos family, working with CPW, were seeking a letter of support from the board, but commissioners Moyer and Rector opted to follow a Moffat County trend of "taking a neutral position," saying

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RANGELY FOOTBALL:

Nov. 21 @ Dove Creek



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

The Panthers are league champions for Western slope 8-man football and will head to Dove Creek for quarterfinal playoffs on Saturday.

Cowboys head to playoffs in Strasburg

BY TIFFANY JEHOUREK
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER | Sunday the Cowboys officially moved into the playoffs for the seventh year in a row. This came after a commanding victory over the Paonia Eagles, 47-0. It was the Cowboys third shutout of the year.

Forty points were scored in the first 10 minutes and 30 seconds of the game, initiating the mercy rule and a running clock.

The first six were put up by Jeremy Woodward with only 35 seconds ticked off of the game clock. On Meeker's second play Woodward ran it in for six and Ryan Phelan met Braydon Garcia for the extra two, it was 8-0 the Cowboys, and they never relented.

The Eagles, on their second play of the game, and still on their 20 yard line, had a bad snap, giving Phelan time to get in the backfield and cause a fumble that was recovered by Dax Sheridan.

On the Cowboys second down, Colby Clatterbaugh ran it in for six and Phelan added two more, making it 16-0 in just four snaps.

On Paonia's first play after the kick return, they threw an interception to Kelton Turner, who then carried it two more times for 25 yards each time,

and scored to make it 22-0. Clatterbaugh caught for the extra two with 6:54 left in the first.

The game was dominated offensively and defensively by the board by Porter Hossack with two more times, Clatterbaugh and Turner added extra points, and Phelan caused another fumble.

In the second quarter the final points were added to the board by Porter Hossack with 7:54 seconds left in the first half, John Hampton Hightower then kicked it in and the score was 47-0.

"I am really pleased how the boys came out from the start and performed well," commented head coach Shane Phelan, "It was a total team effort and we got everyone in."

Beginning in the second quarter the JV began to substitute for the varsity, and by the second half it was all JV all the way, still shutting down the Eagles.

Rushing was led by Woodward with 108 yards, Turner with 71, Dagon Dade with 57, and Hossack with 54. Receiving, Garcia added 20 yards and was the only one in double digits, the game was won on the ground.

Defensively the tackles were

► See **COWBOYS**, Page 2B

Panthers West Slope League champions

Special to the Herald Times

RANGELY | Western Slope League Champions is a phrase that has not been used toward the Rangely High School football team for some time, and that has now changed. By defeating the Gilpin County Eagles Saturday in Rangely to a score of 28-20, the Panthers can now call themselves league champions. The team, however, is not satisfied with just that title for the year. The Panthers will enter the Colorado 8-man football playoffs as the five seed overall and travel to the number four see Dove Creek on Saturday, Nov. 21 to take on the Bulldogs at 1:30 p.m. The Bulldogs are a familiar foe to the Panthers as they have matched up for a non-league game in recent years. The Panthers have won the previous four match-ups and will look to keep that streak going.

The Gilpin County game switched from taking place in Blackhawk to Rangely on account of both coaching staff so that both teams were allowed to have fans attend the game.

The Gilpin County seniors were honored before by the Rangely community and football members with senior gift bags. The opening kickoff came after the pregame festivities, and the Panthers came out looking to

secure the league championship in impressive form.

After forcing the Eagles to punt after their first three offensive plays, the Panthers drove down into the red zone, but the drive fizzled on a holding call that brought back a scoring run by junior Zane Varner. The Panthers could not complete their next two passing attempts and turned the ball over on downs to the Eagles. The Panther defense reacted quickly on the Eagle's first play and forced the Eagles to fumble their first play. Junior Timothy Scoggins caused the fumble, and the recovery by senior Gabe Polley was just what the Panther offense needed to get the ball back into their hands. The Panther offense then drove 38 yards on four plays to score the first touchdown of the game. Varner took the hand-off through the right side of the Panther's powerful frontline and score. Varner also punched in the two-point conversion to make the score 8-0 in favor of the Panthers.

Gilpin County fielded the short kickoff from the Panthers, and the Panthers recorded two straight tackles for loss by Scoggins and Polley and forced the Eagles into a long third-

► See **PANTHERS**, Page 2B

Football championships moving to CSU-Pueblo

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | All seven classifications of the 2020 state football championship games will be held on the campus of CSU-Pueblo as part of CHSAA's Championship Weekend this December.

The CHSAA office and the Pueblo-based Friends of Football made the joint announcement of the games on Wednesday.

The event will mark the first time in the history of Colorado high school football that all seven classifications will play at the same site as part of Championship Weekend, which is slated for Dec. 3, 4 and 5 at the Neta and Eddie DeRose Thunder Bowl.

"This is an opportunity to showcase all seven levels of football — from schools with more than 3,000 — on the same field on the same weekend," said CHSAA assistant commissioner Adam Bright, who oversees football. "This will be a great culminating event to this football season."

The historic combination of playing all seven classifications at one site will result in the following schedule:

The 6-man and 8-man games will be held on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 4, will see the 2A and 4A games, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, the 1A, 3A and 5A games will be held at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

The CHSAA Board of Directors unanimously approved the site move during a meeting Nov. 10.

"The unanimous vote speaks to our confidence in this plan," said Troy Baker, the president of the CHSAA Board of Directors. "We are excited for Championship Weekend, and are celebrating the fact that the CHSAA staff has worked so tirelessly to put this plan together with the Friends of Football."

CHSAA's Season A began its championship season with golf in early October. Tennis, softball and cross country have all completed successful championship events.

"Our championship season started with golf, and then continued with tennis, softball, and cross country," said CHSAA commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green. "For me, this is about a celebration of the athletes, coaches, athletic directors and parents in our school communities; our officials; and the CHSAA staff. Even in the midst of the pandemic, our Association has found a way to celebrate high school athletics and activities. We are looking forward to celebrating football as the culmination of Season A."

The relationship between CHSAA and Friends of Football began in 2018 when the groups combined to put on the 2A and 3A state football championships at CSU-Pueblo.

"I want to thank the Pueblo community, the leaders within the city, the leaders at CSU-Pueblo, and the Friends of Football for not only advocating for this event, but wanting this event," Blanford-Green said. "Their work and their history has shown they want this event. It's always great to host an event where you're wanted. They did everything they could to make this happen."

"Friends of Football and CSU-Pueblo Athletics are very proud and excited to work through the challenges of 2020 for the benefit of student athletes from 6-man schools to 5A schools," said Dan DeRose, president of the Friends of Football. "The Pueblo community will do all we can to make this a weekend that will never be forgotten."



TIFFANY JEHOUREK PHOTO

The Meeker Cowboys will play the Strasburg Indians Friday for the quarterfinal playoffs. The game will be livestreamed by Strasburg on YouTube.



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

THE STRIP

#29

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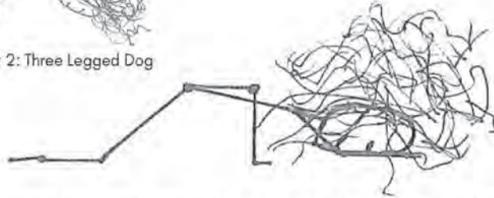
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First Steps To Every Pose

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.



Part 2: Three Legged Dog



This pose is called Lizard Lung, and is the third pose in a series to increase mobility and flexibility.

From Three Legged Dog move into this position by reaching your right leg long, and then sweeping it forward in a step that will place your foot on the outside of your right hand. Gently lower your left knee to the ground (use a folded blanket for cushion) and untuck your toes. You can keep your hands on the ground or slowly begin to lower down onto your forearms. Allow your torso weight to sink down increasing the stretch felt in your left hip flexor.

This can be a very intense stretch so try to stay relaxed through your upper body and bring awareness into your lower body to see where you may be able to release unneeded tension and better surrender into this pose.

For an added challenge you can add a twist to this pose by coming onto your hands and inhaling to reach your right arm high, turning your torso towards your right thigh. To significantly deepen this twist bend your right knee and capture your left foot in your right hand, you should feel a deep stretch through your left quad.

Repeat on your other side.



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

The Panther team takes pride in winning the Western Slope League Championship.

PANTHERS: quarterfinal in Dove Creek Saturday

► Continued from Page 1B

down. One the long third-down play, the Eagles attempted a pass. Still, Scoggins and Polley's tremendous pressure forced an early throw by the Eagles quarterback, and senior Ryan Richens was able to step in front of the errant pass and intercept it. Richens then raced 51 yards down the Gilpin County sideline to put the Panthers up 14-0. The 2-point conversion failed for the Panthers on the next play.

The Eagles then tied the game up quickly on two plays by their very fast backfield that proved to be hard to tackle for the Panthers all game. With the game tied at 14-14, the Panther offense went back to work with little time left in the second quarter and marched 67 yards for the touchdown run by senior Anthony Lujan. The Panthers two-point conversion failed on the next play, and the score stood at 20-14 at the end of the first half of the game.

The third quarter proved to be a juggernaut of a quarter for both teams as neither team could score. The Panther offense had success rushing the ball, but untimely penalties would halt Panther drives and force them to turn the ball over to the Eagles. The Panther defense

kept the Eagles on their heels the entire third quarter and continued their physical play style that the Panther coaching staff loves about the defense.

In the fourth quarter, the Panther offense finally put the ball into the endzone on a crazy play. Lujan dropped back to pass the ball, but the Gilpin County Eagles blitzed their middle linebacker. The blitz put four Eagle pass rushers against three Panther blockers. Lujan quickly recognized this blitz and stepped up in the quickly collapsing pocket. With two Gilpin County defenders hanging on Lujan, he fired a 40-yard pass to senior Ryan Richens, who then scampered down the Panther sideline for 52 more yards. The Panthers capped the drive with a successful 2-point conversion to put the Panthers up 28-20 with under two minutes left. The game ended on an exciting note as the Panther defense proved strong once again and did not allow the Eagles to gain a first down on the final drive. The Panthers capped off their undefeated regular season and their first outright league championship in over 20 years.

Offensively for the Panthers, Varner led all rushers with 102 yards on 23 attempts, one

touchdown, and two 2-point point conversions. Lujan was next in rushing yards for the Panthers as he had his best rushing game all year with 25 rushing attempts and 100 yards, and one touchdown. Richens also ran the ball nine times for Rangely and amassed 75 rushing yards, and scored two touchdowns (one receiving and one defensively). Richens also had 91 yards receiving for the Panthers.

Defensively the Panthers were led by Scoggins, who had 13 solo tackles. Five of those tackles resulted in a loss of yards, including one sack. Scoggins now has seven sacks on the year, tying Scoggins for second in all of Colorado 8-man football. Polley was next in tackles for the Panthers as he notched nine total tackles and three tackles for loss. Richens was next with eight solo tackles, and one interception returned for a touchdown.

The Panthers will travel to Dove Creek on Saturday, Nov. 21, to take on the Bulldogs in the quarterfinal playoff game. With a win against the Bulldogs, the Panthers would host the semi-final game in Rangely, and a win there would send the Panthers to Pueblo to compete for a state championship on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.

COWBOYS: on to Strasburg

► Continued from Page 1B

spread and contributed by many. Leading was Elijah LeBlanc and Brendan Clatterbaugh each with four, then Phelan, Connor Blunt, Casey Brink, C. Clatterbaugh, Judd Harvey and Ethan Drake, all with three.

On Sunday when the brackets were posted and the chips fell, Meeker sat in the seventh position

and will travel to Strasburg to take on the Indians this Friday at 7 p.m.

"We are really excited we made the bracket," said Phelan, "We are now excited we get to go compete against one of the better teams in 1A."

Strasburg has been in the championship game every year since the Cowboys last met them in 2016.

"Strasburg has a really good team and good football program," commented Phelan, "their running back is good, the quarterback is good, their line is good and they are well coached."

No fans will be allowed to attend the game. The game will be livestreamed by Strasburg on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/8RM3QazdUy0>.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES READERS

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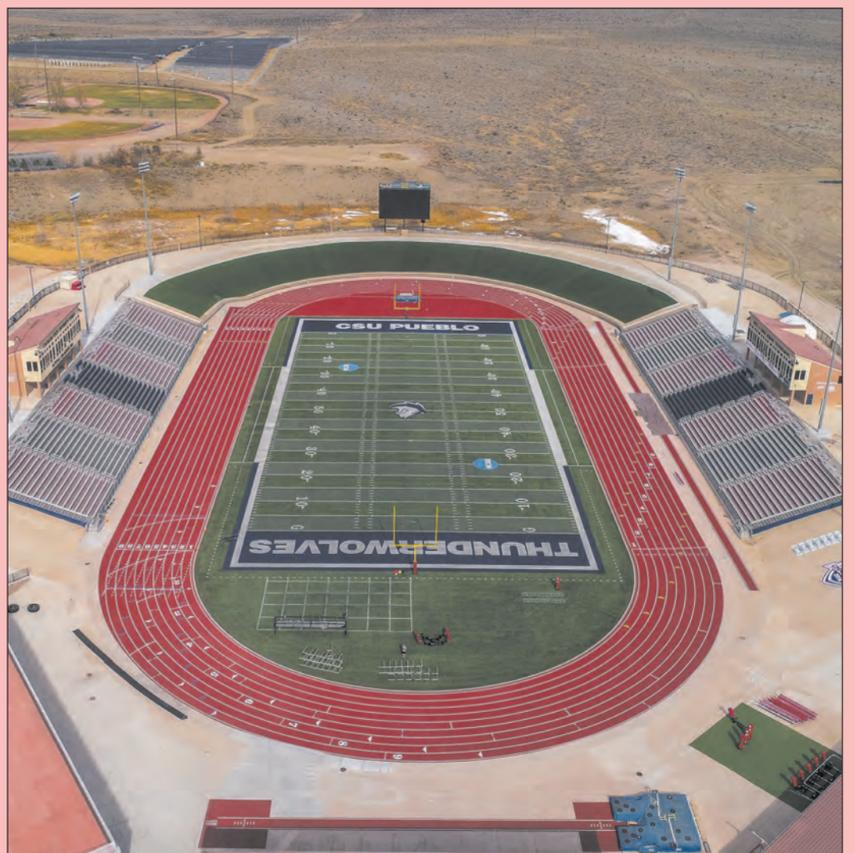
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THUNDER BOWL



COURTESY PHOTO

This is a drone shot of the "Thunderbowl" at CSU-Pueblo where all of this year's high school football championships will be played in Denver. Details are on page 1B.

TROOPER TIPS

It's winter driving time

BY MASTER TROOPER
GARY CUTLER
Colorado State Patrol

RBC I Well we have a couple of snowstorms under our belt already this year and we have had our standard crashes that come with those storms. Just as you need to get used to your sea legs when sailing, you need to be ready for snow when driving and how your vehicle will respond to different surface textures. So, these are the topics I want to hit on in this article this year: freezing rain, windblown snow, and compacted snow.

Freezing rain scares me the most. I've been doing this job for 17 years now and in my opinion this one catches drivers off-guard the most each year. Because a driver sees the road, speeds are usually faster and the resulting crashes are more extreme. It comes down to how drivers perceive road conditions when the roadway surface, whether it be asphalt, or concrete, is visible. So, this means speeds remain too fast because drivers don't consider the road surface may be slick. Just because you can see the roadway doesn't mean it's safe for fast

speeds. If it's raining and the temperatures are low, that rain can quickly turn to black ice.

Windblown roads. This is when it has snowed, but no longer snowing and there are wind gusts blowing snow over the roadway. Sometimes this is only happening in specific areas, so the perception is the road surfaces are dry. But in fact, this area will ice up a road almost immediately. Especially as the snow blows across the roadway and vehicles drive over and compact the snow even more turning it icy. Drivers assume that since it's no longer snowing and the roads are clear, speeds can be higher. Not always so.

Compacted snow roadway surfaces. This is when the snow on the road has a visible amount of snow on it and has been compacted. This can cause traction to be a problem. There can also be a layer of ice that is hidden causing driving on it to be even more dangerous. Treat it as a slick surface.

When driving in adverse weather and you are around other vehicles, make sure to give your self more distance for stopping. There is no reason to be so close that when your tires don't grab, you end up meeting your fellow

driver in a fender bender. Try to double your usual distance. That may seem a lot, but it helps prevent unintentional crashes.

To all of my 4-wheel drivers out there. I know, I have a truck too, but just because you have better traction doesn't mean you won't end up off the side of the road or hitting someone because the truck slid into them. We cover many truck crashes in the winter due to over confidence in how they handle in bad weather. Also try not to get too close to vehicles going slower than you due to road condition.

One last thought. Anytime the roads look wet, from either water or snow on them, never use your cruise control. If you hit standing water, snow, or ice, and you have cruise control on you are more than likely going to wreck. It's a mixture of slower reaction time and braking when you shouldn't be braking that late.

Remember to use my favorite saying. If it's raining, treat the road as if it's snowing. If it's snowing, treat the road as if it's ice. If the road is icy, just stay home. Drive safely, arrive alive.

As always, safe travels!



STOCK PHOTO

White River National Forest Christmas tree permits available

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Christmas tree cutting permits for the White River National Forest are now available.

Permits are available online from rec.gov, at area vendors, and curbside from White River National Forest offices by calling in advance. Visit www.fs.usda.gov/goto/whiteriver/christmastrees for complete details, including vendor locations and the rules and regulations for Christmas tree cutting.

"We are encouraging people this year to get their Christmas tree cutting permit online or from one of our nine vendors throughout the area," said White River National Forest Recreation Event Coordinator Hillary Santana. "We are grateful to our local vendors for continuing to partner with us so we can provide broader

access to permits, and we are excited about the new opportunity the on-line option brings."

Permits are \$10, with an additional \$2.50 fee if you purchase online. Trees must be for personal use and there is a limit of five permits per person.

This year fourth and fifth graders are eligible for a free Christmas tree permit through the Every Kid in the Outdoors program. These free permits can be acquired online and at Forest Service offices by presenting a valid pass or paper voucher printed from the Every Kid Outdoors website: <https://everykidoutdoors.gov/>.

Plan ahead. Many forest roads close prior to or on Nov. 23. Motor Vehicle Use Maps detail this information. These maps are free and are available at Ranger Stations or on the Forest website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/whiteriver/recreation>.

U.S. Army to host virtual career fair

PRESS RELEASE

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I U.S. Army Recruiting is hosting a virtual career fair on Nov. 20 to educate interested individuals about full-time and part-time careers available in 150 different specialties.

As part of the hiring event, Army recruiters will provide information about the benefits of military service, to include health insurance, retirement

plans, training and education opportunities, and family support programs.

The Army offers a wide variety of career options, ranging from traditional combat roles to support positions in logistics, engineering and technology.

Qualified applicants may be eligible for bonuses up to \$40,000 or student loan reimbursement up to \$65,000, depending on the selected occupation, length of the contract,

and timeline for shipping to basic training.

The virtual career fair will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. online at <https://events.indeed.com/event/69555/>

For more information about the Army's virtual career fair in your area or to request an interview, please contact the Salt Lake City Army Recruiting Battalion Public Affairs Office at 801-974-9518 or usarmy.knox.usarec.list.6jbn-apa@mail.mil

Win a \$1,500 scholarship from CollegeDrive

PRESS RELEASE

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I In an effort to help students prepare for their future, CollegeDrive Test Prep and Tutoring is pleased to offer the 2020-2021 CollegeDrive Scholarship Competition.

CollegeDrive will award a scholarship of \$1,500 to a student who plans to attend college in 2021. The deadline to submit scholarship applications is March 1, 2021, and the winner will be notified by April 15.

Ben Baron, CollegeDrive's CEO, explains the company's rationale for the annual scholarship program: "As an education company committed to preparing students for their future, CollegeDrive celebrates educational opportunities and recognizes the importance of higher education in helping individuals reach their greatest potential. The Scholarship Program is a way we can encourage students to think about their future goals as they take their next steps in life."

To compete for the scholar-

ship, students must complete the application and submit a qualifying entry of either an essay or other creative expression posted on social media. Posts must be made on one of the following platforms: Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram or TikTok, along with #CollegeDriveScholarship. Students are asked to describe a moral dilemma they have faced in their life and how they handled it.

For more information and complete competition rules, visit: CollegeDrive.com/scholarship

SHOP @ HOME
FOR THE HOLIDAYS
This year, more than ever!

Shop at Home for the Holidays is a five week sweepstakes that gives local shoppers the opportunity to win Holiday Bucks to spend at local businesses!

Since 2020 has given us double the trouble, we're DOUBLING our sweepstakes!

One Meeker resident and one Rangely resident will win \$50 in Holiday Bucks every week of our Shop@Home promo!

How it works:

- ◆ Businesses sign up for five ads in our Shop@Home special section.
- ◆ Shoppers enter to win Holiday Bucks at any participating business throughout the promotion.
- ◆ One winner from each town is randomly selected each week.
- ◆ Winners spend Bucks at any Shop@Home merchant of their choice.
- ◆ Merchants can then submit Bucks to the Herald Times for a statement credit to save on advertising!

Businesses, reserve your ad space today!

Email ads@ht1885.com or call 970-878-4017.

Promo runs Nov. 26 ~ Dec. 24
Deadline for advertisers to sign up: Nov. 20

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Community HOSPITAL
970-644-3800
www.YourCommunityHospital.com

DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald
125 years ago

Wallihan, the famed wild animal photographer of the Rockies, passed through town Monday, bound for the lower country, where he will utilize his camera for some time in pursuit of his profession. So far, the present has

been the severest early winter experienced here in ten years, and yesterday's storm capped the climax, as the office imp would say. Early in the morning a heavy snowfall set in and continued until about twelve inches reached mother earth, winding up with a mild blizzard in the evening. The weather is still cold but clearing.

The Meeker Herald
100 years ago

Turkey shoots were numerous in the fore part of the week, and a number of crack shots got their Thanksgiving bird for a nominal outlay; others were not so fortunate, but, like in the recent election, they could not all be lucky.

The Midwest Oil Company is getting interested in the oil field just east of Meeker, and if we could only get a "gasser" similar to the White River section we shall all cast aside our ranges and coal stoves and install gas burning cooking and heating apparatus. Just fancy!

The Meeker Herald
50 years ago

Meeker will be featured on Channel 9 and 12 Monday, Nov. 23, The Meeker Herald was notified this week. "The story of Meeker" will be told on KUTV at 6p.m. The Meeker Cowboys, 1970 Northwestern league football champions, had nine varsity players named to either the All Conference teams or received Honorable Mention, by vote of the conference's coaches last week.

The Meeker Herald
25 years ago

It was indeed, a fine high school football game, as the Cowboys, who don't understand the word "Quit" - kept coming back, and with just seconds remaining in the game came back, one last time for a 82-24 win.

Rangely Times
50 years ago

A former Rangely resident is featured in the Winter Edition of SPORTS PLANES magazine in an article entitled "Look Out, Red Baron: Here Comes the Foo Fighter!" Tom Rabourn, son of Mrs. Eva Rabourn and the late S. T. Rabourn of Rangely, and now an airplane pilot with Mohawk Airlines, and a partner have created the world's one and only JD 2-FF.

Rangely Times
25 years ago

CNCC's new Outdoor Program enthusiastically seeks solutions to the age old problem "there's nothing to do in Rangely." We offer students and community members the opportunity to participate in all kinds of outdoor activities and to learn basic outdoor skills.

Rangely High School Math Club took second place in the University of Southern Colorado Math Bowl on November 16.

CROSSWORD grid with numbers 1-62.

OMAHA STEAKS advertisement featuring a grill and list of items: 4 (5 oz.) Butcher's Cut Filet Mignon, 4 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops, 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers, 4 (3 oz.) Gourmet Jumbo Franks, 4 (2.8 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin, 4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets, Omaha Steaks Seasoning Packet. Introductory price: \$79.99.

AMERICAN STANDARD WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1,500. Includes features like 140 years of experience, ultra low entry, quick drain technology, lifetime warranty, and 44 hydrotherapy jets. Call 866-612-7490.

SUDOKU grid with numbers 3, 7, 8, 2, 9, 4, 5, 3, 5, 1, 7, 3, 9, 7, 5, 8, 7, 9, 3, 5, 4, 9, 7, 9, 3.

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.

THEME: DOCTOR'S ORDERS
ACROSS

- 1. "Back to the Future" antagonist
5. Government Printing Office
8. Frugal driver's acronym
11. 1952 Olympics site
12. Afghanistan's neighbor
13. Letter-shaped girder
15. Wing-shaped
16. Narcotics agent, for short
17. Call it quits
18. *One way to improve health
20. She played a TV genie
21. Cunning
22. Golfer's goal
23. "Kiss the Cook" garment, pl.
26. Keyboard instrument
30. Prefix for before
31. Greek god's libation
34. Door-stopping wedge
35. Full of meaning
37. Fleur-de-___

- 38. Do penance
39. Type of parrot
40. *Ask for procaine when at this office
42. *Unavoidable risk factor for many diseases
43. Rock grinding
45. *Take a spoonful of sugar to avoid this taste
47. Genetic info carrier
48. Aqua-lung
50. Criticism
52. *Annual ___
55. Fill with spirits
56. First rate
57. Purl partner
59. Vandalized a car
60. Coconut fiber
61. Bulgarian money
62. Filling station filler
63. More of the same
64. Water carrier

DOWN

- 1. Feathery scarf
2. ___ of Man
3. Linseed
4. Do without
5. Last Supper cup
6. Break down or analyze
7. Fairy-tale beginning
8. Internet share-able
9. Stepping stone to gain
10. Greenwich time
12. *Use a scalpel
13. Like the Vitruvian Man
14. *Stay in bed
19. *Take antihistamines to avoid this kind of nose
22. A pop
23. *Eat one a day?
24. Rap sheet listing
25. So out it's in
26. *Worn until a bone heals
27. Piglet

- 28. Lightly color
29. Different spelling of emir
32. Horsefly
33. "Wizard of Oz" man
36. *Increase fluid intake
38. Elsewhere, in a courtroom
40. *___ test
41. Maltreater
44. Tatooed
46. Gridiron position
48. Record a movie
49. Diogenes, e.g.
50. ___ market
51. Big name in chips
52. Show worry
53. All over again
54. In real-time
55. *It checks your heart health
58. Road crew supply



PUBLIC NOTICES

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

RIO BLANCO COUNTY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE PUBLICATION LIST OCTOBER 2020. FUND: GENERAL. VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT. ROGERS, MICHELLE, ELEC JUDGE, (110.00) USPS, PURCH SVCS, 496.38...

MKR SANITATION DIST, UTL, 572.00 MKR, TOWN OF, UTL, 1,401.70 MICRO PLASTICS, PURCH SVCS, 68.24 MIDNIGHT METALS, PURCH SVCS, 7,233.98...

FUND: ROAD & BRIDGE. VENDOR NAME, ACCOUNT NAME, AMOUNT. MKR, TOWN OF, AP MUNCP, 277.81 RINGLY, TOWN OF, AP MUNCP, 214.39...

GREAT WEST TRUST, RBC CONT, 74.80 JESSE YARBROUGH, PURCH SVCS, 400.00 PITNEY BOWES RES, ONTY EXPNC, 19.25...

US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 1,960.78 CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 459.00 GREAT WEST, RETIREMENT, 1,129.00...

US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FED W/H, 297.09 US DEPT. OF THE TREASURY, FICA W/H, 799.54 CO STATE WITHHOLDINGS, STATE W/H, 135.00...

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PUBLIC NOTICES

• MISC NOTICES •

Public Notice
As the snow season approaches, please remove everything from the street, such as trailers parked along the curb or in cul-de-sacs, vehicles that are not used all the time and basketball hoops. We take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your cooperation. If you have any questions or need further information, please call (970)878-5344. Lisa Cook, Town Administrator
Russell Overton, Public Works Superintendent
Published: November 5, 12 and 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**RIO BLANCO COUNTY
NOTICE OF FINAL CONTRACTOR SETTLEMENT
2020 RIO BLANCO COUNTY ROAD 7 BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT PROJECT**
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 8th day of December, 2020 at Meeker, Colorado, final settlement will be authorized by the Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners with Western Gravel Constructors, LLC of 3001 N. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401 for all work done by said CONTRACTOR on the project known as 2020 Rio Blanco County Road 7 Bridge Replacement Project.

1) Any person, co-partnership, association, or corporation who has an unpaid claim against the said project may at any time, up to and including the date specified in item 2 below, file a VERIFIED STATEMENT of the amount due and unpaid on account of such claims.
2) All such claims shall be filed with Van Pilaud, County Engineer, Rio Blanco County Road & Bridge Department, 570 2nd Street, Meeker, Colorado 81641 on or before December 2, 2020 at 4:00 P.M.
3) Failure on the part of a creditor to file such a statement will relieve Rio Blanco County from any and all liability for such claim.
Dated at Meeker, Colorado this 12th day of November, 2020.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO
BLANCO COUNTY
BY JEFF RECTOR, CHAIRMAN**
Published: November 12 and 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**BEFORE THE COLORADO OIL AND GAS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE AND APPLICATION FOR HEARING
DOCKET NO. 201000250
TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND TO WHOM**

IT MAY CONCERN:
Pursuant to Rule 522.e., the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Staff has applied to the Commission for an Order Finding Violation against Maralex Resources Inc (Operator No. 53255) to adjudicate allegations in the Notice of Alleged Violation Nos. 402410195, 402418482, 402429554, 402474703, 402474985.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to §§ 34-60-101 to -130, C.R.S. and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 2 CCR 404-1, that the Commission has scheduled this matter for hearing on:
Date: January 4, 2021
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place:
Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203
The Notice and Application for Hearing and related information is available at <https://cogcc.state.co.us/reg.html#hearings>. Look to right column for "Active & Pending Matters" "Enforcement".
Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**RENEWAL POST-FILING PUBLIC NOTICE
K219AW – Meeker, CO**
On November 10, 2020, an application to renew the license for FM translator station K219AW, Meeker, CO was filed. FM translator station K219AW operates on Channel 219 with an effective radiated power of 0.023 kW from a transmitter site located at 40-240 North Latitude, 107-56-15 West Longitude and rebroadcasts FM station KLOV, Winchester, OR on Channel 207.
Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to the renewal application and to whether FM translator K219AW has operated in the public interest should file comments with the FCC by March 1, 2021.
Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**DISTRICT COURT, RIO BLANCO COUNTY,
STATE OF COLORADO**
Court Address: 455 Main Street, P.O. Box 1150
Meeker, Colorado 81641
(970) 878-5622
Case Number: 20JV06 Div.: B
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

In the Interest of D.D., minor child,
And concerning MORGANNE BUSTOS,
THADFORD DICKERSON
and ROB LIVELY, Parental Respondents
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO:
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED FATHER, ROB LIVELY,
OF THE MINOR CHILD, D.D.
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND
REQUIRED** to appear and defend against the claims of the Petitions for Determination of Paternity and of Dependent or Neglected Child filed with the Court in this action. A copy of the Petitions may be obtained from the Clerk of the Court.
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that the Dependency and Neglect Petition filed with the Court alleges that the above-named child is dependent and neglected for reasons more fully set forth in the Petition.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that your parental rights may be terminated by this action.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court has set said Petitions for hearing on the **4th day of December, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.** at the Rio Blanco County District Court, Meeker, Colorado.
YOU ARE NOTIFIED TO BE AND APPEAR BEFORE THIS COURT AT SAID TIME. DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, ALL HEARINGS ARE BEING CONDUCTED VIA THE COURT'S WEBEX ONLINE SYSTEM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PLEASE CONTACT THE COURT TO OBTAIN CALL-IN INFORMATION.
Dated this 11th day of November, 2020.
/s/Donald L. Steerman
Donald L. Steerman, #23402
P.O. Box 599, 555 Main Street
Meeker, CO 81641
ATTORNEY FOR THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**DISTRICT COURT Rio Blanco County, Colorado
455 Main Street, PO Box 1150
Meeker, CO 81641
Court Telephone: (970) 878-5622
In the Matter of the Estate of
Ronald Lee Davis a/k/a Ronald Davis,
Deceased
Attorneys: Steerman Law Offices, PLLC, Meeker,
Colorado
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION
PURSUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S.****

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Ronald Lee Davis a/k/a Ronald Davis,
Deceased Case Number 2020PR30015
All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before March 26, 2021, or the claims may be forever barred.
James N. Harris
Name of Person giving notice
1170 Gail Circle
Address
Meeker, CO 81641
City State Zip
Published: November 19, 26 and December 3, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Shirley F. Cox, aka Shirley Faye Cox, Deceased, Rio Blanco County District Court Case Number 2020PR30014.
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before March 13, 2021, or the claims may be forever barred.
Wade Ray Cox, Personal Representative
c/o Olszewski, Massih & Maurer, P.C.
P.O. Box 916
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602
Published: November 12, 19 and 26, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**RENEWAL POST-FILING PUBLIC NOTICE
K220BM – Rangely, CO**
On November 10, 2020, an application to renew the license for FM translator station K220BM, Rangely, CO was filed. FM translator station K220BM operates on Channel 220 with an effective radiated power of 0.028 kW from a transmitter site located at 40-9-30 North Latitude, 108-56-56 West Longitude and rebroadcasts FM station KLOV, Winchester, OR on Channel 207.
Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to the renewal application and to whether FM translator K220BM has operated in the public interest should file comments with the FCC by March 1, 2021.
Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FAIR BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 6 P.M.
ONLINE-ONLY
Go to <https://meet.google.com/khg-gmjv-bik>
Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times**

ANATOMY OF A LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that

Title
This is the easiest way to pinpoint the purpose of a notice. Sometimes this will be very general, maybe even just "PUBLIC NOTICE". Keep reading for the...

Description
This is the 'meat' of the legal notice, telling you what it's about. For agendas, it's what will be discussed in the meeting. Other types of notices vary.

Publication Date
This is the date the notice is scheduled to be published. Many public notices have requirements for publication set by state statute.

Newspaper of Record
A newspaper of record must meet certain requirements to be able to publish public notices.

Public notices keep you informed of government actions and provide a third-party transparency check. They are a permanent record of government actions and cannot be easily altered like digital records. They are readily available to each and every citizen, regardless of digital know-how.

Published: Never 7, 8, 9, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

FUN FACT: Publication prices for legal notices are set by state statute and have not changed since 1993! (For reference, a first class stamp in 1993 cost just 29 cents.)

**INFORMED CITIZENS ARE THE BEST CITIZENS.
READ YOUR PUBLIC NOTICES!**

• MEETING AGENDAS •

Board of County Commissioners of
Rio Blanco County, Colorado
Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse
555 Main Street, 3rd Floor Hearing Room
Meeker, Colorado 81641
November 24, 2020

- 11:00 a.m. Call to order:**
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Changes to November 24, 2020 Agenda
- CONSENT AGENDA for November 24, 2020**
 - A. Move to approve the below listed items of the Consent Agenda.
 - B. Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2020. (All sign)
- BUSINESS**
- MOU's, CONTRACTS, AND AGREEMENTS**
- RESOLUTIONS**
- OTHER BUSINESS**
 - A. Public Comment
 - B. County Commissioners Updates
- PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Adjourn
The next regular Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for DATE in the LOCATION. Please check the County's website for information at <http://rbc.us/186/Board-of-County-Commissioners>. If you need special accommodations please call 970-878-9431 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made.
Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

the Chief of Police and providing new provisions requiring that protective helmets be worn by off-highway vehicle operators under the age of eighteen and allowing the operation of golf carts on all roads within the Town Limits

- a. Discussion and action to approve the October 2020 Financial Statement
- b. Discussion and action to approve the Charter (Spectrum Pacific West, LLC) Franchise Agreement
15. Informational Items
- a. Shop N Dine 2020
16. Board Vacancies
- a. Planning and Zoning Board Vacancy
- b. RDA/RDC Board Vacancy
17. Scheduled Announcements
- a. Community Outreach meeting is cancelled for November 2020 at 6:00 pm
- b. Rangely District Library Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 9, 2020 at 5:00 pm
- c. Western Rio Blanco Park & Recreation District Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm
- d. Giant Step Preschool Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 12, 2020 at 6:00 pm
- e. Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 16, 2020 at 7:00 pm
- f. Rio Blanco County Commissioners Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 17, 2020 at 11:00 am
- g. Rangely Junior College District Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 17, 2020 at 12:00 noon
- h. Rangely School District Board meeting has been scheduled for Nov 17, 2020 at 6:15 pm
- i. RDA/RDC Board meeting scheduled for Nov 19, 2020 at 7:30 am
- j. Rangely Chamber of Commerce Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 19, 2020 at 12:00 noon
- k. Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District Board meeting is scheduled for Nov 25, 2020 at 6:00 pm
- l. Rangely District Hospital board meeting is scheduled for Nov 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm
18. Adjournment

Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1
Board of Education Regular Meeting
555 Garfield Street
Meeker, CO 81641
November 23, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.**
Community members wishing to observe the work session may do so by using the following Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/epn-kxeh-vnn>
Community members wishing to attend the work session in person are asked to RSVP to chris.selle@meeker.k12.co.us no later than 72 hours prior to the meeting. An alternative meeting location may be selected to ensure physical distancing, if needed.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. deVergie will lead the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome of Guests
4. Approval of Agenda
- Student Celebrations:** n/a
- Staff Recognition:** n/a
- General Public Comment Session:** (comments limited to three minutes)
- Public/Committee Reports:** DAC, Meeker Education Foundation, BOCES
- Principal Reports:** - Attached
- Superintendent Report:** - Attached
- Consent Agenda:**
 1. Approval: Minutes from Regular Board Meeting on October 26, 2020
 2. Acceptance: Financial Reports and Check Vouchers for October 2020
- Action Items:**
 1. Personnel
 - a. Certified/Classified Substitutes - Trudy Burri, Torrie Gerloff, Briana White, Dominick Cardile
 - b. Classified Substitute - Savana May
 - c. Bus Driver Substitute - John Hooper
 2. Approval: Bid for utility vehicle purchase
- Other BOE Information:**
 1. Construction Update
 2. COVID-19 Update and Precautions for BOE Meetings
 3. Finance Update
- Executive Session:**
Adjournment

Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**Meeker Cemetery District
Special Meeting Board of Directors
Monday, November 23, 2020 8:30am
265 County Road 4, Meeker, CO 81641**

1. Call to Order
2. Approve agenda
3. Bid opening for surplus auction
4. Circle Park Pond Easement
5. Adjourn

Published: November 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**Town of Rangely
November 24, 2020 - 7:00pm
Agenda
Rangely Board of Trustees (Town Council)
ANDY SHAFER, Mayor
Trey Robie, Mayor Pro Tem
Rich Garner, Trustee
Luke Geer, Trustee
Tim Webber, Trustee
Alisa Granger, Trustee
Keely Ellis, Trustee**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Minutes of Meeting
- a. Discussion and Action to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020
6. Petitions and Public Input
7. Changes to the Agenda
8. Public Hearings - 7:10pm
- a. Public hearing for the Second and Final reading of Ordinance 692 an Ordinance repealing and reenacting section 10.14.030 of the Rangely Municipal Code, clarifying and amending applicable sections, providing for operator certification by

• BUDGET NOTICES •

Notice of Budget
Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors for the ensuing year 2021; a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the Western Rio Blanco and Metropolitan Recreation and Park District, where same is open for public inspection; such proposed budget will be considered at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to be held at the Recreation Center Multi-Purpose Room, 611 S. Stanolind Avenue, Rangely, CO, on December 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Any interested elector of such Western Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation & Park District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.
Jennifer Noel
Administrative Assistant
Published: November 5, 12 and 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Main, Rangely, Colorado, where same is open for public inspection; such proposed budget will be considered at a scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Directors to be held at the District's office, 2252 East Main on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.
Any interested elector of such Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.
Published: November 12 and 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF BUDGET
Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the MEEKER SANITATION DISTRICT for the ensuing year of 2021. That a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the MEEKER SANITATION DISTRICT, where same is open for public inspection. That such proposed budget will be considered at a regular meeting of the MEEKER SANITATION DISTRICT to be held at 265 Eighth Street, Meeker, Colorado on December 9, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.
Any interested elector of such MEEKER SANITATION DISTRICT may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.
Published: November 19 and 26, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

Notice of Budget
Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors for the ensuing year 2021; a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the Western Rio Blanco and Metropolitan Recreation and Park District, where same is open for public inspection; such proposed budget will be considered at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to be held at the Recreation Center Multi-Purpose Room, 611 S. Stanolind Avenue, Rangely, CO, on December 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Any interested elector of such Western Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation & Park District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.
Jennifer Noel
Administrative Assistant
Published: November 12 and 19, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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**NOTICE OF BUDGET
RIO BLANCO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**
Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District Board of Directors for the ensuing year of 2021 a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District located at 2252 East

MARY ANN NINGER
CLERK OF COURT
ROUTT COUNTY COMBINED COURT
WATER DIVISION 6
/s/ Carmma L. Parkison
Deputy Court Clerk

Published November 19, 2020 in the Rio Blanco Herald Times



CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

HELP WANTED

RANGELY

Police Patrol Officer Rangely Police Department

The Rangely Police Department Police Patrol Officer I position requires that candidate have a High School Diploma or GED, A VALID Colorado Driver's License and must be 21 years of age. Applicants must be Colorado Post-certified and able to perform all essential job functions and peripheral duties as well as meet specific knowledge and skill requirements. This position requires 2-5 years prior experience. Salary range is \$50,000-58,000 and would be evaluated and commensurate with the candidate's qualifications. Benefits 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. Successful applicants for the position will be administered a psychological test, pre-employment drug screen, physical/function capacity test, polygraph and full background check. Applicant must be able to work rotating shifts including nights, weekends and holidays. Applications may be obtained from the personnel department (970)675-8476 or police administration (970)675-8467. Applications are also available on our website at www.rangely.com. Email resume and completed application to thamblin@rangelyco.gov 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. Job Type: Full-time

Help Wanted: Ol' Crows Beer and Beverage.
Contact Joe 970-220-2029.

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

Employment Opportunities

- District**
- Food Service Cook
 - Head Custodian
 - Substitute Teacher
- Barone Middle School**
- Co-Head Coach Boys' Basketball

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

RANGELY

Police Lieutenant Rangely Police Department

The Rangely Police Department Lieutenant position basic requirements are that candidate have a High School Diploma or GED, A VALID Colorado Driver's License and must be 21 years of age. Applicants must be Colorado Post-certified and able to perform all essential job functions and peripheral duties as well as meet specific knowledge and skill requirements. The advanced skills include administrative, planning, organizing and supervising officers and activities as assigned. The Lieutenant will also promote and assist the Chief of Police with the department's long-range goals, objectives, scheduling, policies and more difficult police & investigative issues. This position required 8-10 years prior experience. Salary range is \$55,000-65,000 and would be evaluated and commensurate with the candidate's qualifications. Benefits 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. Successful applicants for the position will be administered a psychological test, pre-employment drug screen, physical/function capacity test, polygraph and full background check. Applicant must be able to work rotating shifts including nights, weekends and holidays. Applications may be obtained from the personnel department (970)675-8476 or police administration (970)675-8467. Applications are also available on our website at www.rangely.com. Email resume and completed application to thamblin@rangelyco.gov 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. Job Type: Full-time

Economic Development Manager (EDM) • City of Craig

Fulltime position with exc. benefits. \$62,070/yr.-\$89,381/yr. Reports to the City Manager, manages and administers economic development policies and programs throughout the City. Coordinates and manages the implementation of community-wide economic and redevelopment programs of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) and assists in implementation of the adopted community goals and policies of the City of Craig Economic Development Committee and Craig Urban Renewal Authority. Bachelor's degree in Business, Urban Planning, Economic Development, Marketing, or related field. Minimum 3 years marketing, public relations, or economic development experience promoting businesses. In depth knowledge of business and marketing principles and strategies. Strong marketing and public relation skills. Strong knowledge of the City of Craig business and cultural community preferred. Must have excellent customer service and interpersonal skills. Ability to work independently with little direct supervision. Must possess excellent organization and administrative skills. Limited supervisory experience required but preferred. Must possess a valid Colorado driver's license. Must pass pre-employment drug screen, motor vehicle and background check. Complete application/job description available at www.ci.craig.co.us "Employment Link", gduran@ci.craig.co.us, or Craig City Hall, 300 W. 4th St., Craig, 970-826-2010. Deadline: November 30, 2020. EOE/ADA

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 - MLT/ML-Lab Shifts
 - Stock & Receiving Clerk

• CNA Class 11/2 - 11/3

PRN: For a complete list of all our PRN Positions, please visit our website.

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Case Aide
- Emergency and Natural Resources Manager
- Public Information and Program Manager
- Relief Radino Driver, Rangely

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

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

School Bus Route/Activity/Substitute Driver

Meeker School District Re-1 is seeking individuals to drive a school bus route and activity trips beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. While it is preferred that applicants hold a current CDL Class B P2S license, the district will train approved applicants in obtaining this license.

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

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

ADA/EOE
970-878-9040

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