



Santa Claus is Coming to Trail and Hitch!

FREE! All ages are welcome!

Cookies, Hot Cocoa and Holiday Music by the Fire!

Bring your wish list to share with Santa and remember your cameras! Enjoy cookies courtesy of White River Bakery, hot cocoa from Meeker Drugs and holiday music by the fire. All ages welcome. FREE! Make sure to stop by the Trail and Hitch store to check some items off your list! Let the magic of Christmas shine!
We will be practicing safe social distancing by only allowing one family at a time in White River Casita to visit Santa. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be wearing their masks to help keep everyone safe. Please let your child know to sit on the stool in front of Santa instead of his lap. Questions, please call Kris 970-329-1077

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at
White River Casita Tiny Home
Trail and Hitch RV Park and Tiny Home Hotel
322 County Road 8, Meeker, CO



4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 & Saturday, Dec. 12

SHOP@HOME
WEEK ONE
WINNERS!
PAGE 6A

RIO BLANCO Herald Times

'SNOWFLAKE'
CHALLENGE
FIND THEM
ALL & WIN!
PAGE 4A

Serving Rio Blanco County Since 1885 ♦ Vol. 136, No. 18 ♦ December 3, 2020 ♦ ht1885.com ♦ \$1⁰⁰

'She was custom made for us.'

Rangely family reflects on the hope and heartbreak of raising a child with a rare genetic disorder

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

RANGELY I "I have great kids. I couldn't ask for better," said Rangely's Elizabeth Hagin by phone. As little ones squealed in the background and Hagin reminded one of them not to feed the family dog extra treats, *joie de vivre* (joy of life) is evident in her voice, despite the fact everything in the Hagin household isn't idyllic.

Beyond the usual chaos of raising four kids — twins James and Jaxon are 7, and Zoe (3-1/2) and Zara (2-1/2) are "Irish twins," siblings born less than a year apart — Zara has an extremely rare genetic disorder known as HIVEP2. According to Hagin, only 48 cases have been identified worldwide.

"Zara was different from the very beginning," Hagin said. She had genetic testing during her pregnancy, and there were no indications anything was wrong. "When she was born it felt like she wasn't ready yet, even though she wasn't premature," Hagin said.

With four little ones under the age of 5 at that point, daily life was a whirlwind. But before Zara's first birthday, Hagin knew she wasn't meeting the usual developmental milestones. "She wasn't sitting, crawling, not interested in eating at all," Hagin said. They contacted Horizons Specialized Services for an early intervention evaluation.

The family had already worked with Horizons, a nonprofit organization based in Steamboat Springs that offers services in a multi-county area for infants through adults. In Rio Blanco County, Horizons provides developmental screenings and early intervention for infants and children, supported living services for adults, as well as family support services that help qualifying families with copays and mileage for medical expenses.

"My boys were a little behind in speech," Hagin said of James and Jaxon. Her mother, a former school nurse, suggested calling Horizons to see about speech services. They "graduated" from Horizons by the time they were 3 years old. "I had no idea the extent [of services] that they offered," she said of the program.

With Zara, they started with speech and occupational therapy, and then added vision therapy.

"We waited forever for a genetic appointment," Hagin said. The pandemic further delayed the results. Hagin said she and her husband James, who just finished the flight mechanic program at CNCC and is job-hunting, have both had genetic testing to determine if Zara's disorder is due to a recessive gene they may carry, but Zara's condition is all her own.

"She was custom made for us," Hagin said.

The family travels to Colorado Canyons Pediatric

Rehab in Fruita weekly, as "trying to do telehealth OT with a 2-year-old just doesn't work," Hagin said, and their connection to Horizons continues.

"They've been amazing," she said. "Sarah [Grimes] is so fantastic. She's helped me to get connected with different places and made sure that we're able to stay connected through the family support area of things." Grimes is the service coordinator for the early intervention program and the family

and got her moving, we might be done. It's a lifelong thing for us."

HIVEP2 causes varying degrees of developmental delays and intellectual disability. Hagin said the long-term prognosis is unclear, because there are so few cases diagnosed. Horizons has been invaluable to the family.

"I have needed a lot of help and a lot of support. There have been breakdowns. Sarah has been so helpful getting me exactly what I need."

Zara uses a frog-hop crawl to get around, has orthotics and a compression suit that help her with muscle weakness, and loves to be around her mom, dad, and siblings.

"She's happiest when everyone's home," Hagin said.

Zara gets all her nutrition from a bottle with a specific nipple shape, but Hagin is glad she can take the bottle and doesn't require a feeding tube.

"She's starting to get some 2-year-old attitude and is interested in communicating," Hagin said. "It's amazing how someone who cannot talk can communicate as well as she does. She pats a lot; she pats everyone. She will put her face right in front of you if she wants your attention."

A communication device, a kind of table specially set up with words, may help Zara communicate more clearly with others, while a specially designed adaptive stroller would give Zara a different perspective on the world around her. Those options are being evaluated. Horizons Family Support has helped with some feeding therapy items, such as a special high chair.

Hagin said Zara is a perfect fit for their family. "You never want anything to be harder for your kids than it has to be. However, honestly, she is such a part of our family I cannot imagine life otherwise. I wouldn't change her for anything."

Hagin encourages parents who think their child may have developmental issues to get them checked out. "I don't think we'd be where we are if we hadn't started when we did. Any advantage you can help them with is completely worth it. Horizons makes it easy."

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's development, please contact Sarah Grimes at sgrimes@horizonsmwc.org or 541-670-8415.



COURTESY PHOTO

Zara Hagin is the 2-1/2-year-old daughter of James and Elizabeth Hagin of Rangely. She has an extremely rare genetic disorder known as HIVEP2; only 48 cases have been identified worldwide. The Hagin family receives help for Zara's condition from Horizons Specialized Services.

support program. Zara's vision therapy is still conducted through Horizons.

Hagin said getting her daughter's diagnosis was more than she expected. "I thought once we got her walking

♥ ♥ ♥ LEARN MORE ABOUT HORIZONS ♥ ♥ ♥

WHO: Horizons Specialized Services

WHAT: Rio Blanco Little Points of Light Virtual Kickoff Campaign

Learn about Horizons and get tips on creating a perfect holiday cheese and meat board from Vanessa Trout, owner of Blanco Cellars and The little Cheese Shop

WHEN: TONIGHT! Thursday, Dec. 3, 6 to 7 p.m.

WHERE: Zoom webinar, register at horizonsmwc.org

Pick up a Happy Hour Party Box at Blanco Cellars for this event through 6 p.m. tonight. Call 970.779.9463, stop by the store at 317 E. Market St., Suite 3A in Meeker between 12:30 and 6 p.m. or visit blanocellars.com, click "Shop", then select "Curated Collections" to order.

You can also donate to Horizons this Colorado Gives Day, Dec. 8. See PAGE 2A for details.

New owners bring fresh energy to MGM



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTO

The new MGM logo is freshly painted on the front window of the Market Street location by company Lorenzo's of Rifle.

By CAITLIN WALKER
caitlin@ht1885.com

MEEKER I With 2020 being, well, 2020, it is an especially daunting time to be a small business owner. Despite this year's run of collective global bad luck, there are still many happy opportunities to be found.

Jason and Brenda Purkey found just such an opportunity and signed the papers that made them the proud new owners of Meeker General Mercantile on Nov. 16, 2020. The business was never listed publicly. The sale came about through a series of

fortunate events.

"We were looking for a business opportunity for a relative, and Jason was in talking with Becky [Dunham] one day and she said she was looking at selling. It's just a series of circumstances where we were given this opportunity," Brenda said.

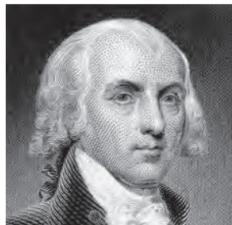
The store, originally a co-op, has been a cornerstone in the community for more than 30 years and was most recently owned by the Dunham family, who bought the outfit in 1996. The store offers animal feed and livestock products, clothing, accessories, shoes, gifts, household goods and much more,

and will continue to do so. The greenhouse will be back in the spring, and the Purkeys also want to build on "community recommendations" and would love suggestions for any new products you'd like to see.

During our interview, the store was consistently busy with customers — one woman looking for a bag of dog food she described as "orange, with a Lab on it," another picking up pet food samples and several more surveying the new changes.

Brenda previously worked as

► See MGM, Page 7A



"The advancement and diffusion of knowledge is the only guardian of true liberty."

~ James Madison

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Sat: 40s/10s Sun: 40s/10s

WAXING GIBBOUS MOON



BLUE CHRISTMAS ...



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTO

A Christmas tree decorated in blue honors and remembers the lives of law enforcement officers who have died this year from various causes. Nationwide, COVID-19 is the No. 1 cause of death for officers in 2020. (<https://tinyurl.com/y3qm9rna>)

CORRECTIONS

From the Herald, 1920:

A well meaning person called our attention to the numerous errors in last week's issue of The Herald. Listen Cully! Errors are our trade-mark so to speak. In our younger days, as a country editor, our mistakes in orthography and grammar were the cause of considerable grief. We have gotten over that. They don't worry us any more.

Give where you live on Colorado Gives Day

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I It's better to give than receive, and our nonprofits need our support more than ever this year. Tuesday, Dec. 8 is the 11th anniversary of Colorado Gives Day, a statewide opportunity to support local nonprofits with a kick: there's a \$1 million incentive fund that boosts the value of every donation.

Donations can be easily scheduled online, with a \$10 minimum. Locally, several nonprofits are registered with the Colorado Gives website (coloradogives.org), including the Colorado Northwestern Community College Foundation, the Meeker Education Foundation, the Rio Blanco County Historical Society, the Becky Dubbert Memorial PTK Scholarship, HopeWest, Mind Springs, Horizons Specialized Services, and several nonprofits that serve multiple counties

including Rio Blanco have been vetted and approved.

You can search for nonprofits by ZIP code, county, town or cause. All donations are tax-deductible to verified 501(c)3 organizations.

Since the inception of coloradogives.org in May 2007, more than \$355,000,000 has been donated to nonprofit organizations statewide.

Local organizations participating in Colorado Gives Day include

- Colorado Northwestern Community College Foundation
- Meeker Education Foundation
- Rio Blanco County Historical Society
- Becky Dubbert Memorial PTK Scholarship
- HopeWest
- Mind Springs
- Horizons Specialized Services
- More at coloradogives.org



COLORADO GIVES DAY IS TUESDAY, DEC. 8. HERE'S HOW TO DONATE:

1. Visit coloradogives.org
2. Search for the organization by name or keyword, location or by cause.
3. Donate! (\$10 minimum) All donations are tax-deductible to verified 501(c)3

Bored? Why not build a quantum computer?

By **BOB DORSETT, MD**
Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Looking for something to do in a pandemic? Isaac Newton invented calculus and classical physics while in isolation during the Great Plague of 1665-66. On that example, a science team in Meeker took a notion for research, though on a scale much lower than Sir Isaac's.

Investigators at MIASMAS (Meeker Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics and Science) including the Institute dogs Uno, Dos, and Dixie, along with the cat, Cat, and myself have constructed what we presume to be Meeker's first quantum computer. Elaborating on the laser optical system developed by my former students, Dylon Merrell and Charley Adams, for their International Science Fair competition, MIASMAS team recently completed a quantum computational device that can solve Deutsch's Problem.

Some background is in order. What is a quantum computer? (The other obvious question, 'and so what?', we'll get to that later.)

Quantum mechanics is the underlying mathematical model that physicists use to understand



COURTESY PHOTO

What is believed to be Meeker's first quantum computer was assembled by Bob Dorsett in his living room, with assistance from dogs Uno, Dos and Dixie, along with the cat, Cat.

nature. Among its many unusual and counterintuitive features is that a system can exist in a superposition of states. For example, until you look for it, an atom can be in box A, right here, or in box B nearby. More precisely, the atom is in a superposition of being in both boxes at the same time. Weird but true, as proven by countless experiments.

So while your standard computer (or cell phone or car's ignition system or any other typical digital calculating device) calculates with 0's and 1's, a quantum computer calculates with superpositions of 0's and 1's. It is calculating probabilities for landing on zero or landing on one. And there's a whole lot of probabilities between zero and one. There's 0.1, and there's

0.15 and there's 0.6582307 and ... You get the picture. There's an infinite amount of information you can pack between zero and one.

Among other applications, a cleverly designed quantum computer can crack the RSA code, the security code that keeps eavesdroppers from figuring out your credit card number when you order online. Even in its encrypted form, that number is sitting in there between zero and one, and a properly designed quantum computer can find it. (Not to worry. We're still a ways from a quantum computer that will break the RSA system. Meantime, other unbreakable security systems, using other features of quantum mechanics, are under development.)

For the foreseeable future, quantum computers will be dedicated devices, each of them designed to solve a restricted set of problems. It's not likely you'll see a generally programmable quantum device like the digital machine in your pocket or on your desk top, one that can word process documents, calculate sums on spreadsheets, and link you to the internet. But for the appropriate tasks, quantum

► See **QUANTUM**, Page 7A

Pioneers Pulse



Jingle Mingle Box

Great for a Holiday Dinner or a Gift.

Go online to: <https://pioneershealthfoundation.org/shop/>
Call 970-878-9317 or email: mjoy@pioneershospital.org



• **Italian Dinner (Serves 4):**

Cantine Povero Barbera d'Asti Italian red wine 750ml, Afeltra Italian Imported Linguine, Mariangela organic pasta sauce, Parmesan cheese, Mediterranean Olive mix, Panforte Margherita, Marabissi, Italy.

Order by December 4 for pick up December 11--\$80

• **Box of Snacks and Wine (Serves 4):**

Ca del Sarto 750ml Prosecco, Ferides 5'oclock Sriracha Ranch snack mix, Ferides Sea Salt & pepper peanuts, Olive Mix, Pimento Cheese, Crackers, and Chocolate.

Order by December 11 for pick up on December 18--\$50

• **Non-alcoholic Italian Dinner (Serves 4):**

Four cans San Pellegrino Essenza Sparkling water, Afeltra Italian Imported Linguine, Parmesan, Mediterranean, Olive mix, Panforte Margherita, Marabissi, Italy.

Order by December 11 for pick up on December --\$50

Offering Drive-Thru Pickup at Blanco Cellars

Fridays 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Pioneers Healthcare Foundation and Blanco Cellars/The Little Cheese Shop are partnering to raise awareness for our local Meals on Wheels program. This past year there has been more need. Many times the Meals on Wheels meal is the one nutritious meal they eat that day.



SANTA is coming to town!

**Saturday, December 5
Starting at 10:00am
Meeker, Colorado**

This year, instead of breakfast at the Fairfield Center, Santa will be cruising through town on the firetruck!

For a full map of Santa's route, visit ERBM's Facebook page or website at www.ERBMrec.com/santa.

Santa will be joined by the Meeker Fire Department, Meeker Police Department, and RBC Sheriff's Department on his journey around Meeker.

ERBM Recreation & Park District
101 Ute Road, Meeker, CO 81641
www.ERBMrec.com
970-878-3403



NEWS BRIEFS

Algae Study virtual meeting

RBC | The Technical Advisory Group will be meeting virtually on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. to hear an update from USGS on their data collection for the White River Algae Study. If you are interested in attending, please call 970-878-9838 to request a link for the virtual meeting.

Window shop with The Upstairs Gallery

MEEKER | The Upstairs Gallery is closed at the moment, however, it will be open for some Small Business Saturday window shopping. Shop the Hugus building windows, text or leave a voicemail for Pat @ 970-799-9375 with your name and item numbers. Pick up between 2-5 p.m. at the 594 Main Hugus door. Fine art and crafts and great gifts by Pat Sheeran/Daggett, Maym Cunningham, Andy Goettel, Tasha Geodert, Suzi Kull, Jere Taylor, Janele Husband, Roberta Hawks, Jennifer Taylor, Tim Knouff and Katie Conrado. Wear a mask.

Santa Claus is coming to Trail and Hitch

MEEKER | Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the White River Casita at Trail and Hitch RV Park and Tiny Home Hotel at 322 County Road 8, Meeker, on Friday, Dec. 11 and Saturday, Dec. 12 from 4 to 6 p.m. Enjoy cookies from White River Bakery, hot cocoa from Meeker Drug and Holiday music by the fire. All ages welcome and the event is FREE! We will be practicing safe social distancing by only allowing one family at a time in White River Casita. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be wearing their masks to help keep everyone safe. Please let your child know to sit on the stool in front of Santa instead of his lap.

Jingle Mingle on-the-go

MEEKER | Help raise funds for Pioneers Health Foundation and the Meals on Wheels program by purchasing a Jingle Mingle Box for a holiday dinner or gift. Go to <https://pioneershealthfoundation.org/shop> or call 970-878-9317 to order. Several options available, see the ad on PAGE 2A for more info.

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. Testing in Meeker will be from 3 to 4 p.m. only on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 8 and 9 due to scheduling conflicts. All other days will be 10 to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.

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.

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

OPEN HOUSE ...



The Meeker Chamber of Commerce celebrated the Open House for the Biz of the Month Restored Grace on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 28. Pictured are owners Sondra and Kelli Garcia, Stephanie Kobald, Chamber Director, and Sabine Murray, Chamber board member.

COURTESY PHOTO

STORE HOURS

MONDAY 7am - 8pm

TUESDAY 7am - 8pm

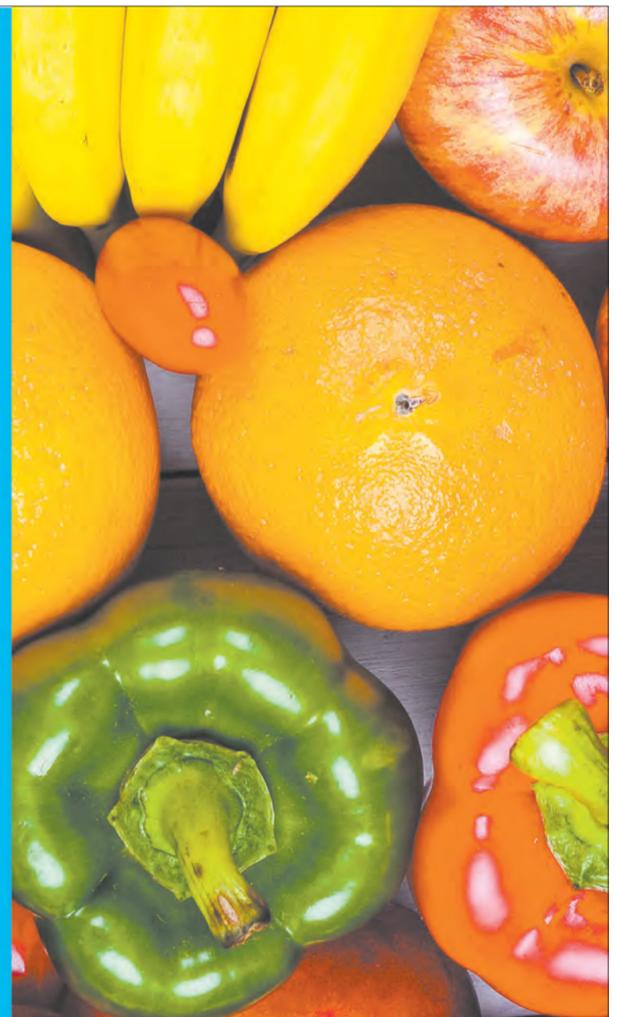
WEDNESDAY 7am - 8pm

THURSDAY 7am - 8pm

FRIDAY 7am - 8pm

SATURDAY 7am - 8pm

SUNDAY 8am - 6pm



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WANTED

The Rio Blanco County Fair Board is now accepting bids for the 2021 Livestock Sale Pictures at Fair.

For a complete criteria packet please call the Extension Office at 970-878-9490, stop by the Office at the Fairgrounds or email rbcfairboard@gmail.com.

Bid Deadline
Dec. 15, 2020

The RBC Fair Board reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

WINDOW SHOPPING!

Shop NEW artwork and fine crafts in the Hugus Building windows on the corner of 5th and Main St. Dec. 4 through Dec. 21!

Call or text 970-779-9375 with your name and the item numbers you would like!

Pick-ups will be scheduled Weds.-Sat. from 4-6 p.m. at the 594 Main St. Hugus Building door. Mask required for pickup.

the Upstairs Gallery
592 Main St., Ste. 11
Meeker, CO

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SUZI KULL
TASHA GOEDERT
JERE TAYLOR
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TIM KNOUFF
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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Stigma, snowflakes, and sensationalizing

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

Last week when I wrote about finding gratitude, I wasn't expecting to be quite so tested by that notion. I'll begin with this: I am profoundly grateful for and proud of our local law enforcement and EMS crew and dispatch. We had an upsetting Thanksgiving eve that ended with my husband in the hospital in Grand Junction.

So here is a personal shout-out to RBC Deputy Travis Mobley and Meeker Police Officer Justin Yates for their calm, professional mannerisms and methods during our family emergency. You acted as peace officers, which is exactly what we needed. Thank you also to the Meeker EMS crew who were kind and helpful, and to local dispatcher Brittany Mancini, who kept me reasonably calm when my hands were shaking so bad I could barely hold on to the phone. You are appreciated, and you are necessary.

It was a timely — albeit uncomfortable — experience, just as we've been planning to embark on a collaborative series about mental health issues triggered or exacerbated during the pandemic and the particular challenges our tri-county Northwest Colorado area has with mental health resources. We'll be working with editors from the *Craig Press* and the *Steamboat Pilot*, along with Susan Greene and Tina Griego from COLab. The first part

of that series, titled "On Edge," will be published next week in the *HT*.

I'm sharing my own family's story publicly, despite possible repercussions. Why?

Because even knowing what I already know about mental health and mental illness, shame and guilt and stigma still tried to sneak up on me. I had to remind myself that if my husband had a heart attack, there would be no shame in calling an ambulance. He had a brain attack, not a heart attack. The only difference is it's a different organ.

We learn CPR to help keep someone alive when their heart stops. We learn the Heimlich maneuver to save a choking victim. What do we learn to help keep someone alive when their brain goes haywire and stops working? I thought I was prepared, and yet I still panicked. That tells me we need more training, transparency, and information.

There was an '80s movie where a character couldn't say the word "cancer" out loud. She whispered it, everytime, even in regular conversation. Cancer was stigmatized once, too. Now there are pink ribbons emblazoned all over everything. There's empathy and compassion for cancer fight-



ers. Stigma about mental health is part of the reason people avoid getting the care and support they need. And then there's limited availability of providers. And then there's the cost — I don't even want to think about that part yet. The pandemic has made all of those issues worse.

It's estimated one in four adults will experience a significant mental health crisis during their lifetime. We all have to be in this together, and we all need to tell our stories. You'd be surprised how many people you know have had similar situations themselves or with a relative or a friend. I'd love to talk to any of you about your experiences with mental health in Northwest Colorado or mental health during the pandemic in the next few weeks. Whether you've battled depression or PTSD or bipolar, or you're a family member of someone who lives with mental illness, we're all in the same boat. Drop me an email or give me a call.

On another, perhaps lighter note, there's a new mystery in town: the secret identity of "Gossip Granny," a Facebook persona creating biting satire posts and memes that roast specific local entities and individuals. Some of them are pretty harsh.

Who is behind this Gossip Granny persona? Folks have asked if it's me, or one of us at the newspaper, which made me laugh.

We're barely keeping our heads above water over here, between COVID and crisis and all the rest of the family stress.

Like it or lump it, Granny has the right to her opinion, and that's what Facebook is for: opinions.

Speaking of opinions, you'll find snowflakes scattered throughout the paper this week. Someone deemed us a "snowflake paper" for running a Colorado Parks and Wildlife press release last week reminding residents that even if wolves have been delisted nationally, they are still protected in Colorado, so if y'all "shoot, shovel and shut up" and get caught, you're liable to get a hefty fine.

The first person to count all the snowflakes and call us at 970-878-4017 (leave a message if we're not there), email accounts@ht1885.com or message us on Facebook with the correct number, will win a gift from the *HT*. Here's a hint: there are a lot of them.

I've also been asked if I'm "in cahoots" with the Public Health Director by "sensationalizing" the pandemic for some nefarious and imagined reason. I've been chuckling about it all week. First, you can't sensationalize numbers. Second, if I wanted to be in cahoots with someone, I probably wouldn't pick the lowest paid county department head. Thanks for the laugh, though, I needed it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support the Meeker Education Foundation this Colorado Gives Day

Dear Editor:

Colorado Gives Day 2020, scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020, is an opportunity to support local nonprofits across the state through online giving. The Community First Foundation, FirstBank and other community members have created a \$1 Million Incentive Fund to promote statewide philanthropy. This fund increases the value of every donation. The Meeker Education Foundation, Inc. is a local nonprofit you can support through Colorado Gives Day at ColoradoGives.org on Dec. 8. You may schedule a donation in advance, as well.

MEF provides staff/student grant awards for academic and enrichment opportunities, classroom and program needs throughout our District. Thanks to its many generous donors for the current school year, MEF has been able to fund grants for the Elementary and Middle Schools' new Science curriculum, textbooks for Meeker High's AP History and Sociology courses, MHS's Drama Program, Meeker Elementary's Art and Music Programs, camera packages for MHS's new Yearbook course and other hard copy and digital curricular materials in the Middle and Elementary Schools. The Foundation is very grateful for the funding it has received

through Colorado Gives Day in the past.

Meeker Education Foundation

Limit the damage before this is over

Dear Editor:

Mask mandates have proven to be very controversial in Rio Blanco County, but most of the arguments so far have been based on personal liberty versus community responsibility. There is little thought of the economic and fiscal impact of the COVID pandemic on our local businesses and government that so far has not been discussed. A lot of evidence exists that a mask mandate can improve economic outcomes and lower medical costs for businesses, governments, and individuals.

There is potential economic activity sitting on the sidelines. A number of our citizens who are at risk and don't trust others in the public are staying home. The University of Utah has recently had four professors release a paper where they analyzed credit card transactions before and after states had instituted mask mandates. They found that overall economic activity increased after mask mandates were instituted. <https://eccles.utah.edu/news/new-study-statewide-mask-requirements-save-lives-livelihoods/>

In my own life, my parents, as well as my mother and father-in-law, have been staying home and avoiding trips and eating out because they are high

► See **LETTERS**, Page 5A

Meeker Recreation Center

UPDATE



RE-OPENING MONDAY, DECEMBER 7!

Face masks recommended.

Follow social distancing guidelines, adhering to public health protocols. All hours are subject to change, please contact 970-878-3403 for the most up to date information.

CENTER HOURS

Monday-Friday.....5:00am-7:30pm

Saturday-Sunday.....10:30am-6:00pm

POOL HOURS

Adult Swim (13 & Older)	Open Swim (All Ages)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday-Thursday 5:00am-9:30am Friday 5:00am-8:00am 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday-Thursday 9:30am-1:30pm (CLOSED 1:30pm-4:00pm) 4:00pm-6:00pm Friday 8:00am-6:00pm Saturday-Sunday 11:00am-5:00pm

Pool hours may vary during holiday weeks. Visit ERBMrec.com for holiday pool hours.



ERBM Recreation & Park District
District offices located at Meeker Recreation Center
101 Ute Road, Meeker, CO 81641
www.ERBMrec.com • 970-878-3403



Like us on Facebook!

WHAT'S WITH THE FLAKES?

Find all of the snowflakes hidden in this newspaper and win a pretty darn good prize from the HT.

(Hint: There are more than 40.)

Here's a freebie to get you started! ➡ ➡ ➡

THOUGHTS EXPRESSED ON OPINION PAGES ARE EXCLUSIVELY THOSE OF THE WRITER AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE HERALD TIMES. YOU ARE WELCOME TO SUBMIT SIGNED LETTERS ON MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST TO EDITOR@HT1885.COM, MAIL TO PO BOX 720, MEEKER, CO 81641 OR DROP OFF AT 304 4TH ST., MEEKER. THERE IS NO CHARGE. DUE TO SPACE CONSTRAINTS, PLEASE TRY TO KEEP SUBMISSIONS 500 WORDS OR LESS.

We have something to sing about!



Emily Ambrose, MD
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Otolaryngologist/Laryngologist

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CNCC CORNER

GUEST COLUMN: KAYE'S CORNER

GUEST COLUMN: LOOSE ENDS

Wishing everyone a fantastic New Year

By **RON GRANGER**
Special to the Herald Times



Ron Granger

enrollment, and provide more innovation in learning and teaching.

Although this last year has been very difficult, it has taught us several things about CNCC and ourselves. We are a very innovative group who will do everything we can to provide our students with the best possible education. We also learned that when we work together, we can accomplish anything. This was proven by the successful semester we had this fall. But most of all, it taught us that CNCC can be and will be a leader for our communities. We have worked with our local governments, our businesses, and our local schools during this very difficult time. With all of that said, we know we will do more when our spring semester begins.

I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a fantastic new year when January rolls around. I personally am looking forward to seeing students and community members back on our campuses. Thanks to all of you for your support of Colorado Northwestern Community College and thank you for being the communities you are.

RBC I The end of the year is upon us. This has been the most unforgettable year that I, and many others, have ever lived through, but all of us have made it and are looking forward to 2021. CNCC was prepared for the pandemic and all the changes that it brought our way. We accomplished many goals this semester including having our enrollment down less than one percent, which was one of the best in the state of Colorado. However, we aren't done yet.

Most of our students are finishing the semester remotely after the Thanksgiving holiday. This was a decision that we, as a group, made to keep our students, staff, faculty and communities safe. However, we will be back to person learning in January for our spring semester. We will be preparing for the return of our students over the next several weeks and are looking forward to having students in our residence halls and classrooms. We will also be preparing for athletic events returning to our campuses and believe we will be very competitive in our conference.

For the last nine months, we have been in survival mode, as have all colleges and universities. Now we are beyond survival mode and are in expansion, innovation, and moving forward mode. That means we will be looking at new ways to deliver classes, grow

Christmas music joys

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



Kaye Sullivan

MEEKER I love Christmas in part because I love the joyful music that is part of this season. I dig out my well-worn holiday music and start playing my piano even if it is only for me because the sounds are so comforting. The old familiar tunes bring back memories of years gone by and songs we can sing by memory.

Now, as the part time pianist at the Methodist church, I get to record music from our three hymnals that add up to more than 1,200 choices. Well, not all of those are Christmas music, but there is plenty to choose from.

Since the church is closed, I will miss playing Christmas Eve duets with Mary K Kruger that was always a treat or playing anything at a live service. It's not the same without the congregation singing and candles on Christmas Eve, but somehow, I am motivated to try to play better to help make these online services an excellent substitute for the live events.

My piano music is sparse and thus I appreciate using an online service of sheet music that sells books and immediately downloadable pieces. For example, when I heard on the radio Bill Withers' song, "Lean on Me," I wanted to play it. So, I searched this site and in just minutes was printing a piano version of this music.

One of the gifts we have during this pandemic is unparalleled virtual resources. I listen to Pandora

music all the time while I work or cook. Starting Dec. 1, I switch to Christmas music for most of the month. I listen to many musicians and varieties of music and always find something new to entertain me.

Sometimes I set aside time to listen to the entirety of Handel's "Messiah." This is profoundly serious music and the performing choir and orchestra practice endlessly to sing this challenging music. Recently, I appreciate Pentatonix who is a more modern group and performs music in unique ways. These two examples are quite a stretch apart in style, yet I enjoy them both for different reasons.

I will miss listening to Meeker's community choir this year. They are a huge joy of gathering together various voices from our town and melding them into lovely productions.

But even while recovering from COVID, music brings me joy and as I heal, I can play a little.

Yes, our traditional Christmas traditions are falling by the wayside during COVID. But music is still out there to comfort us and provide a wee sense of normality.

Cuppa joe

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



Dolly Viscardi

MEEKER I Blame it on the first "cuppa joe" I was handed by an old cowboy so many years ago. It was nothing like the kind you are handed these days. No fancy flavorings, no frothy, creamy swirls topping the inky liquid. It was a simple mug of the steaming, black, cowboy coffee I soon craved throughout the day.

I was a tea drinker the year we arrived in the White River Valley. Worse yet, I preferred herbal teas, the kind that were not yet in most local kitchens. I grew used to the taste, but became addicted to the conversations.

I soon found out that there were many different coffee klatches all over town. The two convenient stores catered to the ranchers, farmers and working men from all over the valley. The bakery and cafe near main street attracted another men's group. The women mainly gathered in neighboring homes or their church basements or fellowship spaces.

Gallons of fresh brewed coffee each morning was the obvious attraction but the main magnet was the conversation. The down side

to this kind of gabfest was that it seemed to validate gossip under the guise of caring about friends and neighbor.

During the pandemic, many of the

morning coffee get-togethers have disappeared from view. I don't miss that one bad side—the care and feeding of the gossip grapevine. Seemingly casual comments led to speculation and oversharing of too much erroneous information.

A mug with the apology message, "I'm sorry for what I said before I had my coffee," sums up the need for most people's morning cuppa. Although the message on backside of it places the blame squarely on someone else instead with the added comment "But you really should have known better."

No apologies needed for me. I know exactly where the blame should be placed. That first cuppa joe.

LETTERS: continued

► Continued from Page 4A

risk and don't trust others in the community to take proper precautions. This has accelerated the shift to online purchases rather than spending locally. They have all worked hard to have an enjoyable and healthy retirement, but are afraid that it can be cut short or have the quality impacted by catching COVID. Who is advocating for those people?

Right now there are businesses closed due to this outbreak. This is not opening things up and alone suppresses economic activity at a time when there are still hunters running around town looking for a place to eat. During the last few weeks when there are tourists in town businesses have had to close because of our community spread. It makes for a long, hard winter when a restaurant cannot maximize its income prior to snow falling.

There is also a problem of an uneven playing field. The free market works best if there is an even playing field, but what if we have two businesses that are staffed by people of different risk levels? The one that closes their dining room or restricts it due to greater risk is going to feel a greater hit. Before you attack someone for being more careful, not everyone is willing to die for a few extra dollars. More recently, the County's

fiscal problems have been in the news. There is a cost from this disease that has a very tangible component. The average hospital stay for COVID costs \$35,000 to \$45,000, depending on age group. The most expensive group was 51-60-year-olds. Think of the age of a lot of our county employees. Vanderbilt University released a study showing mask mandates reduced hospitalizations. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6947e2.htm>

One thing I have learned working at a hospital is that one way or another the insurance companies will come out ahead. They get the first money in and are the last money out at all times and that will hit our county's, and citizen's finances. It will hit the county government either through higher future premiums, or more cost to employees. Both of which hurt our local economy. Given the time spent on reducing payroll and benefit costs it would be irresponsible to add more future costs to the employer and/or employee by ignoring a simple solution such as a mask mandate.

It may cause some among

us to swallow our pride, but so far it seems the greater voice has been given to those that have no skin in the game, give their feelings the same weight as expert advice, and do their research on Facebook. So far we have made it to this point relatively unscathed. One death is one too many, but let's not play Russian roulette with more. In a few months we will be able to put most of this behind us. With a vaccine around the corner we will not even have to talk about people masking up outside of an operating room. So, please, let's not make things harder for our businesses, employers, and citizens and enforce a mask mandate. It will all be over soon, but we can limit the damage done before then.

Jared Harvey
Meeker

CONSERVATION CORNER

Drought impacts to evergreen trees

By Linda Masters, Extension Director, Rio Blanco County CSU Extension

Many evergreen trees (pine, pinyon, and spruce) are currently exhibiting decreased vigor, twig dieback, and needle browning or needle drop. The primary cause of these conditions is prolonged drought. Dry air, low precipitation, low soil moisture and fluctuating temperatures are common conditions in western Colorado and trees can usually bounce back after one or two low-water years; however, stresses from prolonged drought harms trees by damaging root systems, reducing plant vigor and leaving trees more susceptible to insects and disease.

Homeowners can take specific steps to improve the survival rates of landscape trees. When selecting trees, be sure to ask local experts for trees that will thrive in specific local site conditions. Important considerations include drainage, soil chemistry/pH, water requirements, and elevation. During prolonged drought, landscape trees may require substantial additional water depending on tree age and local conditions. Properly applied fall and winter watering can also help, especially in years when sparse snow cover results in decreased soil moisture.

It is also important to recognize the signs of insect infestations as drought-stressed trees are less able to fight off impacts from insects. The most common tree insects recently reported in Rio Blanco County include Coolie Spruce Galls, Pine Needle Scales and IPS Beetles. Spruce Galls normally occur and do not pose a serious threat to conifers. Pine Needle Scales can be treated and conifers will survive their presence. ISP beetles and other pine borers are more serious. Once a tree is infested, it is just a matter of time before that tree dies. Homeowners can prevent their remaining trees from becoming infested and alter landscape practices to improve overall health and vigor of remaining trees. Download fact sheets at: <https://www.rbc.us/205/CSU-Extension> or scan the Zapcode below. For additional information, call Linda Masters at the Extension Office (970) 878-9490.



Christian Evidences (1)

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

... your work of faith, and labour of love ... (1Thes. 1:3)



Dr. J.D. Watson

NO church is perfect, the church at Thessalonica included, but it was nonetheless a model church in many ways. Yes, persecution called for a challenge to continue standing firm (1:2-10; 2:13-16), the pagan culture prompted Paul's concern about new believers falling back into immorality (4:1-8), and there was some misunderstanding about the end times (4:13-5:11), but none of that negated Timothy's glowing report to Paul (3:6-9).

Additionally, Paul wrote of his thankfulness for this church no less than three times (1:2; 2:13; 3:9). Appropriately, then, Paul begins this first letter with a list of evidences that these Christians didn't just profess Christ but that they possessed Him (1:3-10). These proofs encourage us one more time with our own profession and possession of faith.

First, there was production because they had a working faith: work of faith (v. 3a). Paul tells us first that our works are tied to our faith, for "faith without works is dead" (Jas. 2:17). Faith and works are two sides of the same salvation coin. A dead faith is merely an intellectual experience, an affirmation with no action, just words without works. This was not theory to James, for he offered a practical illustration (vv. 15-16). He asked, in effect, "If a fellow believer comes to your door in need of clothing and food but you just respond with, 'Have a nice day, and I'll pray for you,' how is that a product of true faith?" Works do not procure salvation but salvation produces works.

I once read of a godly mother who consistently taught her little daughter lessons of faith and trust, especially that God is always

near so there is no reason to be afraid. After tucking the child in one night, the mother turned out the light and went downstairs. A thunderstorm arose accompanied by a typical blinding flash of lighting and deafening crash of thunder. "Mama, come get me!" the little one cried. Finding her in tears, the mother said, "Hasn't mama told you that God is with you." "Yes," she replied, "but I just needed someone that's got skin on them." Likewise, those in need require servants who have skin on them.

Second, there was affection because they had a laboring love: labour of love (v. 3b). As works are tied to faith, labor is tied to love. "God will not forget your work and labour of love" (Heb. 6:10). We can certainly serve without loving, but we cannot love without serving. Is the only reason we serve because the pastor asks us to? Do we do it just because it's expected of us? Do we do it only because we will be recognized for it? Not the Thessalonians. They not only had "ministered to the saints," but they were still doing so, and they did it all not only because of their affection for the Lord and desire to please Him, but because of their affection for "the saints." God never forgets this kind of service.

Scriptures for Study: How do the following verses confirm today's study: Romans 12:13; 15:25-27; 1 John 3:14-18?

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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Happy Holidays
Janet and Sherry

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MGM: same concept, new items and offerings

* Continued from Page 1A

the Deputy Treasurer for Rio Blanco County for six years, but the political uncertainty of the office made her re-examine her career goals, although she enjoyed the job. (Term limits for the treasurer's office narrowly passed in last month's election.)

"This opportunity allowed us to be more family-oriented on a career path that better fits with our life plans." Those plans include time with daughters Madee, age 4 and Lexi, 11 months, as well as managing not just one, but four other businesses. Those include the family-owned Purkey Packing Plant, White River Loomix (liquid feed for cattle), Big Blue Trucking, and Purkey Livestock, which are mostly managed by Jason. MGM is more Brenda's venture, with brother-in-law Travis Stout as co-manager.

Once the ink was dry on the contract, Brenda dug into reorganizing and recreating an inventory system in the store. The building is a patchwork of add-ons, closets, and hidden nooks, and it took a solid two weeks (with the exception of Thanksgiving and one Sunday) to clean out and rearrange a good chunk of the store's floor



Offerings at MGM include household goods (above), children's toys, gifts, clothing, accessories, the usual feed store offerings and a whole lot more.

space. She's not quite done with the revamp, but hopes to be finished by spring 2021 for a grand reopening celebration.

There are plenty of new and newly discovered inventory items in the space (fashionable flannels, anyone?) and Brenda hopes to bring more vendors online in the near future with

competitive pricing and, of course, the added benefit of dollars staying local. Brands you may find in the near future include Cinch, Wrangler, Hooey, Carhartt and possibly even Levi's. You can also browse farmhouse chic home decor, children's toys and more, with a special focus on items from

independently-owned American companies. And of course, all of the feed and livestock items MGM has offered for years.

Stop by and check out Meeker General Mercantile at 990 Market St., [follow them on Facebook](#), and check out their Shop@Home ad on PAGE 6A.

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Rangely board discusses ordinances for off highway vehicles, municipal code

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

RANGELY I Mayor Andy Shaffer and the Rangely Board of Trustees squeezed in their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 24 before the Thanksgiving holiday. All trustees were in attendance.

The meat of the meeting was two public hearings for Ordinances 692 and 693. The public hearing for the second and final reading of Ordinance 692, which comes on the heels of a serious accident involving a motor vehicle and an ATV being driven by minor without helmets on, provides for operator certification by the Chief of Police and providing new provisions requiring that protective helmets be worn by off-highway vehicle operators under the age of 18 and allowing the operation of golf carts on all roads within the town limits. There was no public

input at the time of the hearings. Geer moved to approve, and Garner seconded the motion.

The public hearing for the second and final reading of Ordinance 693 to amend sections of the Rangely Municipal Code to increase the water, gas and sewer rates and the capital investment fees to provide sufficient revenues to maintain the balance of the water, gas and wastewater enterprise funds was moved for approval by Trustee Garner and seconded by Robie, passing unanimously. Both ordinances will be effective in 30 days.

Town Manager Lisa Piering gave her regular update. She announced that \$85,000 was obtained for the 911 dispatch console contribution, Blue Mountain Energy also generously donated to this cause. Around \$225,000 in total will be needed. Code Enforcement is going dormant for the winter months

but will be pursuing individuals who refused to comply and clean their properties and then refused to pay for the cleanup. The town is working on placing the price tag for cleanup on those properties 2021 property taxes. A company is buying the Adora Inn, possibly turning the currently vacant motel into an extended stay motel. The same company looked at other vacant buildings in the Rangely area.

Moving on in the agenda, the October 2020 financial statement was passed for approval. Moving the general fund into reserves for the rest of the year. Robie moved to approve the Charter (Spectrum Pacific West, LLC) Franchise Agreement, typically these agreements are 10 years long and the town will receive 5% of Charters profits. Trustee Granger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting ended 33 minutes after it started.

QUANTUM: future possibilities

► Continued from Page 2A

computers will outperform even the best conceivable conventional machines.

Which brings me back to Deutsch's Problem. A standard digital computer takes at least two steps to solve Deutsch. No matter how advanced, no matter how fast, any digital computer requires at least two steps. MIASMAS two-qubit quantum computer, on the other hand, can solve Deutsch's Problem in a single step. Bam! Quantum Supremacy! (Never mind that the good ol' digital computer can complete its two steps in a few billionths of a second.)

Okay. Solving Deutsch's problem isn't particularly useful. If you have a mathematical function that produces pairs of zeros and ones (i.e. 00, 01, 10, or 11) Deutsch tells you whether you'll get a 'balanced' pair (01 or 10) or 'constant' pair (00 or 11) when you feed different combinations of zeros and ones into that function. That's not going to help you calculate your bank balance. But it's a building block for bigger and better.

In the foreseeable future, quantum computers will most likely be used to study nature's quantum world. Nature runs on quantum mechanics.

Quantum computers run on quantum mechanics. You should be able to run nature on a quantum machine. So, for example, early quantum computers in chemistry research labs today are calculating optimal reagents for certain chemical reactions and optimal chemical structures for new drugs. Future research hopes to address problems like ammonia production: the Haber process of present-day fertilizer production is enormously energy intensive. Nature makes ammonia all the time, on the cheap. A quantum computer should be able to figure out how. And on the frontiers of spacetime, a seven-qubit quantum computer recently re-created conditions that exist inside a black hole and proved that black holes are nature's fastest information scramblers (Landsman, 2019). Think of it. Little bench-top machines probing the strangest and most extreme environments in our universe.

That's cool.
References
Landsman, K.A. et al. 2019. Verified quantum information scrambling. *Nature*. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-019-0952-6>
Lloyd, Seth. 2006. *Programming the universe*. Vintage

OBITUARIES

Barbara June Sidebottom

Dec. 22, 1936 ~ Nov. 20, 2020

Barbara June Sidebottom, 83, passed away Friday, Nov. 20, 2020, surrounded by her loving family.

She worked as an administrative secretary and retired from the San Diego Court System in 1994. She enjoyed reading, gardening, baking and spending time with her family.

She is survived by her loving husband of 65 years, Robert; her children, Robert Scott (Joyce) Sidebottom of Las Vegas,



Barbara Sidebottom

Nevada; D e n i s e Crocker of Montrose, Colorado; D e n i s e Lawrence of Meeker, Colorado; grandchildren Tera and E m i l y Sidebottom of Las Vegas, Nevada; Andrew Lawrence of Chicago, Illinois; Adam Collins of Rangely, Colorado; Jessica Torres of Meeker, Colorado; Sheala Abbott of Meeker, Colorado; great-grandchildren Michael and David Cook, Scarlett Lawrence, Bryler and Christopher Collins. She is also survived by her brothers Joe (Marilyn) Evans and Bill (Connie) Evans. She will be greatly missed and will forever be in our hearts.

Ethel Starbuck

Aug. 31, 1917 ~ Nov. 26, 2020

After a long and fulfilling life, Ethel Starbuck died at the age of 103 at the Walbridge Wing in Meeker on Nov. 26, 2020.

Ethel was born on Aug. 31, 1917, to Arthur Mark Stone and Ada Alice Bell Stone. When Arthur died of tuberculosis five years later, Ada moved to Colorado with Ethel and Ethel's older brother and sister. The family lived in Briggsdale, Agate, and other locations in Eastern Colorado while Ada taught school and completed Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

They moved to Denver, where Ethel attended Morey Junior High School. At the age of 16, she graduated as class valedictorian from West High School in Denver. At the age of 19, she received her Bachelor's degree from the Colorado State College of Education (now the University of Northern Colorado).

Ethel took a teaching position in Hayden, Colorado, where she met Paul Starbuck. In 1941 they entered a marriage that lasted until his death in 1994, all of that time in Meeker. Ethel was a homemaker and substitute teacher in Meeker and at the Rio Blanco School. In 1953 Ethel became a full-time



Ethel Starbuck

teacher at Meeker High School, a position she kept until her retirement in 1983. Ethel was an accomplished amateur photographer, winning numerous prizes in statewide contests. Although encouraged by many to turn professional, she declined because that might take some of the joy out of her hobby. She did donate photos. Several are hanging in various offices around town; perhaps the best known is her photo of Trappers Lake.

Ethel also enjoyed horseback riding, dancing, and fishing. She consistently caught more fish than the family members who accompanied her. But, in typical Ethel fashion, she never bragged about her prowess. Ethel was preceded in death by her mother (Ada Bell Stone, 1877-1959 and father Arthur Mark Stone (1872-1922), her sister Linnie Alice Stone (1904-1936), her brother Sheldon Wallace Stone (1915-1940), her husband Paul Starbuck (1911-1994), her grandson Scott Starbuck (1971-1985), and her Life Companion of 20 years, Joe Sullivan (1919-2017). She is survived by her daughter Paula Armstrong (Bob) and her son Gene Starbuck (LaTisha) of Grand Junction; by three grandchildren and four step-grandchildren; and by six great-grandchildren and nine step-great-grandchildren. There will be a graveside service for family only. A celebration of her life will be held at a future date. Her family asks that, in lieu of flowers, mourners could contribute to the Walbridge Wing Activities Fund at Pioneers Medical Center, Meeker, or to a charity of their choice that they think would best honor her life.

We can work together to Stop the Spread.

For our loved ones, for our businesses and for our communities.

RIO BLANCO COUNTY COVID-19 STATS AS OF DECEMBER 2, 2020

MEEKER ACTIVE CASES

41

RANGELY ACTIVE CASES

32

CURRENT HOSPITALIZATIONS

2

TOTAL HOSPITALIZED (SINCE 4/1/20)

12

DEATHS

1

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT

9

RANGELY SCHOOL DISTRICT

3

REAL-TIME DATA: <https://rbc.us/606/COVID-19-Updates>

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.





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



CHAMP ...

"World Champion" is the most coveted title in ProRodeo. The sport's world champions are crowned at the conclusion of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, based on total season earnings at PRCA rodeos across the continent, including monies earned at the Wrangler NFR. The PRCA crowns eight world titlists; each receives a gold buckle and a specially crafted trophy saddle. The sport of rodeo runs deep in the Fritzman family. Colten Fritzman of Rifle is a fourth-generation cowboy. Long-time Rangely residents John and Jean Kenney are excitedly traveling to Texas this week to watch their grandson, Colten, compete in his very first National Finals Rodeo. The 2018 Rifle High School graduate is ranked 10th in the world for the bull riding competition. Fritzman, 20, started riding steers at 7 years old and at 9 years old he was already bucking bulls. The athlete competed in Little Britches Association, middle school, and high school rodeos growing up in Rifle. This up-and-comer is one to watch. Four-time World Champion Tuff Hedeman took notice of the rookie in November along with others singing his praises. Fritzman's 2020 career highlights were winning the Sandhills Stock Show and Rodeo (Odessa, Texas) and the Killdeer (North Dakota) Mountain Roundup PRCA Rodeo. Currently the PRCA website reports that Fritzman has won just over \$58,000 this year. The Wrangler National Finals Rodeo (NFR) has moved to Texas for 2020. Arlington's Globe Life Field, home of the Texas Rangers, will host the Wrangler NFR 2020 — the first non-baseball event at this venue. The Wrangler NFR 2020 will take place Dec. 3-12, 2020, and fans can follow official PRCA updates throughout the event at www.prorodeo.com. You can also tune into The Cowboy Channel (TCC) or RFD-TV. The performances will also be streamed on the PRCA on Cowboy Channel Plus app. The PRCA on Cowboy Channel Plus app users will be able to stream events both live and recorded.

BY ROXIE FROMANG/COURTESY PHOTOS



COURTESY PHOTO

BLM Christmas tree permits now available online

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Permits for cutting Christmas trees on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands are available from the White River Field Office in Meeker, Colorado and online at <https://forestproducts.blm.gov/>.

Permits cost \$10 per tree. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., however, due to changing COVID-19 impacts, office access or hours may be limited — visitors should call ahead. Permits may also be purchased over the phone and picked up outside or mailed with a postage handling fee.

Permits are for piñon pine or juniper. Christmas tree cutting is permitted on most BLM-administered

lands within the Kremmling, Little Snake, and White River field offices, though some restrictions may apply. Maps of cutting areas are available with permits.

"With the purchase of a permit, families can take part in the time-honored tradition of selecting and cutting their own holiday tree," said White River Field Manager Kent Walter. "We recommend bringing along a hand saw, rope or twine, extra food, water and blankets when you cut your tree. Tire chains, a shovel and emergency supplies are also a good idea."

For more information about Christmas tree cutting on BLM lands in northwest Colorado reach out to the White River Field Office: 220 E. Market St., Meeker, Colorado 81641; 970-878-3800.

CPW now offering GOCO grants for wetlands projects

Special to the Herald Times

RBC I Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is seeking applications for wetland and riparian restoration, enhancement, and creation projects to support its Wetlands Program Strategic Plan.

CPW will award up to \$2.5 million in funds from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) and Colorado waterfowl stamps to projects in Colorado that support the Wetlands Program Strategic Plan's two main goals:

1. Improve the distribution and abundance of ducks, and opportunities for public waterfowl hunting.
2. Improve the status of

declining or at-risk species.

The Colorado Wetlands for Wildlife Program is a voluntary, collaborative, and incentive-based program to restore, enhance and create wetlands and riparian areas in Colorado. Funds are allocated annually to the program and projects are recommended for funding by a CPW committee with final approval by the Director.

"Wetlands are so important," said CPW Wetlands Program Coordinator Brian Sullivan. "They comprise less than two percent of Colorado's landscape but provide benefits to over 75% of the species in the state, including waterfowl and several declin-

ing species. Since the beginning of major settlement activities, Colorado has lost half of its wetlands."

Since its inception in 1997, the Colorado Wetlands Program has preserved, restored, enhanced or created almost 220,000 acres of wetlands and adjacent habitat and more than 200 miles of streams. The partnership is responsible for almost \$40 million in total funding devoted to wetland and riparian preservation in Colorado.

The application deadline for this year's funding is Jan. 27, 2021. The Wetlands Funding Request for Applications (RFA) is available on CPW's website.

THE STRIP #31

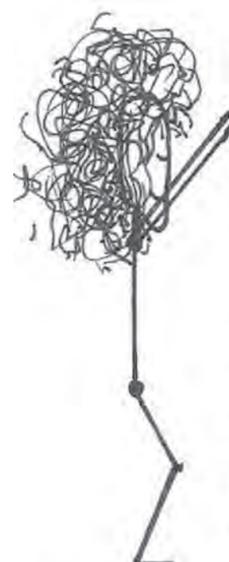
THE STRIP from SLEEPY CAT YOGI SHOP For Digestion & Booty Part 1

SLEEPYCATYOGISHOP.COM

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 tall.
2. Pull your belly button up and then back towards your spine to engage your core and lift your pelvic floor.
3. Stay relaxed through your shoulders and maintain steady/natural inhales and exhales.

This pose is called Chair, and is the first pose in a series that supports healthy digestion as well as booty strength.



Start by setting your feet hips width distance apart. With an inhale reach your arms up while keeping your shoulders relaxed down and your neck long. With your exhale bend into your knees as you sit your hips back and stretch your tail bone down towards the ground. Engage your pelvic floor and core by squeezing your thighs towards one another (They do not actually need to touch). Your weight should be grounding from the balls of your feet back into your heels, check that you have this balance by lifting your toes up for a moment.

Now that you have the proper alignment you can close your eyes and focus on your breath, keeping an even stream of oxygen flowing into your lungs. Continue to think about reaching your tailbone towards the ground and creating space in your lumbar spine. When your arms grow tired you can bring them down to hearts center. Hold this pose as long as is comfortable, inhaling when you are ready to straighten out of it.



Conservation District employee receives state recognition ❄️

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | The White River and Douglas Creek Conservation District boards are proud to announce that District Manager, Tristan Nielsen, received the Employee of the Year award from the Colorado Conservation District Employees' Association. Nielsen is beginning her fourth year with the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts (Districts).

Nielsen does all the typical district manager duties for a district, times two. She develops and maintains the necessary reports required by the state for both districts in a timely manner. She develops the monthly agendas, records the minutes, and provides financials for both boards. She also manages the districts' tree, tire tank, and PAM sales programs along with the no-till drill, fusion machine, and weed sprayer programs.

When you call or stop by the District or NRCS offices you are greeted by Nielsen with a very pleasant voice and personality that lets you know she is here to help you. She is professional and personable in her interactions



Tristan Nielsen

and workshops throughout the year. Nielsen appears to navigate meeting planning and coordinating seamlessly. Other staff and board members know the meetings will be properly noticed as required by law, the location and setup will be just right, meals will be delivered on time, notes will be complete and accurate, and cleanup will be quickly wrapped up. All this is done in the background and with no fanfare.

With the Algae Study and Water Initiative efforts have come multiple grants and admin-

with all people.

In addition to the monthly board meetings for both districts, she coordinates the meetings for the White River Algae Study Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and the White River Integrated Water Initiative's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), along with many other meetings

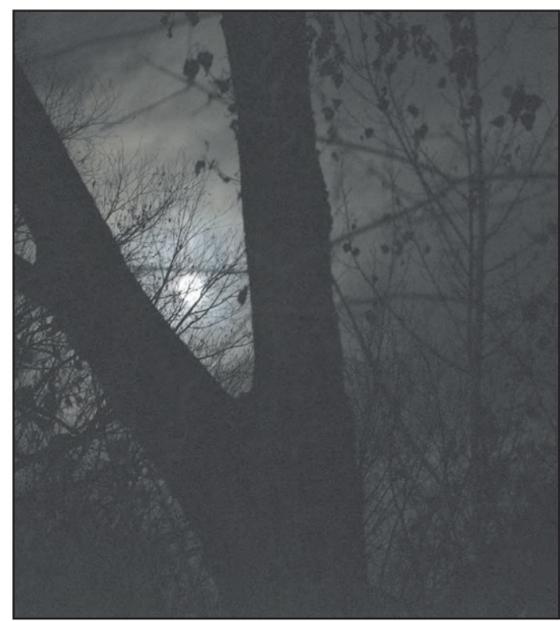
istration of those grants. Nielsen has become a valuable asset in administering these grants as she has learned the idiosyncrasies of each grant and the various reporting and reimbursement requirements.

In 2020, the Douglas Creek Conservation District held a mill levy election. In the best of times it is a challenge to maneuver all the timelines and legalities associated with a mill levy. Of course, COVID-19 entered the picture and elections had additional challenges. With all these new challenges, Tristan worked with multiple people to professionally navigate the process and always maintained professionalism.

"Tristan has become an invaluable asset to the districts and we greatly appreciate all her efforts to help the districts serve our constituents," said Douglas Creek Conservation District President, Bill Hume.

The district board members are proud of Tristan and all the work she continues to do. "Congratulations, Tristan! You have earned this award based on your attributes and your hard work," said White River Conservation District Board President Marc Etchart.

WANING GIBBOUS ...



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTO

The sun and moon are still shining, and that's something we're grateful for. Sometimes it's the little things. Above, the waning gibbous 'Beaver moon'.

\$75K grant aims to grow new apprenticeships in Northwest Colorado

Special to the Herald Times

RBC | Helping Americans get back to work fast while growing their skills and at the same time filling critical labor shortages for rural employers is the aim of a new apprenticeship initiative being developed at the college.

"Apprenticeships have been a tried and true option for growing trade skills. They're proving to be a powerful help to fill other highly skilled roles such as in health-care and technology," said Ron Granger, President of Colorado

Northwestern Community College.

Regional labor market data indicates the largest demand is in home health care and aids followed by registered nurses, EMTs, nursing assistants, and behavioral health substance abuse counselors.

"While the college has strong and growing programs, for some of these occupations, an apprenticeship program might help fill the gaps for other occupations. Current employees can become apprentices and may help employers grow their own. Apprenticeships are also options for people who want to

improve their opportunities while continuing to earn a paycheck, and expanding the talent pool," said Christina Oxley Business Services Coordinator Northwest Workforce Sub-Area Colorado Rural Workforce Consortium.

The college was awarded \$75,000 from the Colorado Healthcare Experiential Pathways to Success (CO-Helps) and Filling the Skills Gap (Co-Tech) programs to develop a college sponsored, multi-employer apprenticeship program.

"This model allows medium

and small businesses to grow their own highly skilled workforce without the additional administrative burden larger employers and trade organizations assume when registering federally approved apprenticeship programs," said Sasha Nelson, Director of Workforce Training and Community Programming for the college.

During the first phase of the program, the college is actively seeking partnerships with area employers hiring healthcare and technology jobs.

"This is a great opportunity for

our communities to help grow our local workforce in high-demand positions and careers. The state and the college have committed to this project, but we can't do this alone. We need people and businesses in our local communities willing to take a chance and partner with us to try something a little different," Granger said.

"Dollar for dollar, no workforce training method packs as much punch as apprenticeship," said Melissa Anzlovar, Colorado Department of Higher Education Healthcare Apprenticeship

Consultant and former rural medical provider. "On average, employers' average return on investment is \$1.47 for every \$1 invested. Investments in the rural workforce can lead to improvements in the economic stability of communities."

Apprenticeship programs reduce hiring and turn over costs and overtime, provide opportunities for cross training and improve employee engagement. The college model aims to make the process simple and affordable for employers and employees.

In a recent presentation about CNCC's model, Melissa English, Apprenticeship Specialist, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, described the simple steps employers would need to take to participate:

- Work in partnership with CNCC to identify your organization's specific needs
 - Complete Employer Agreement and submit to USDOL
 - Hire apprentice
 - Pay apprentice progressively increasing wages
 - Provide on-the-job learning (OJL) for apprentice
 - Match apprentice with qualified mentor
 - Submit updates on apprentices progress and hours to CNCC
- "We already have students eager to earn while they learn — ready to take on the roles of full time student and full time employee to fill labor shortages in our area," Nelson said.

To learn more about hiring an apprentice or becoming an apprentice contact Sasha Nelson by calling 970-824-1118 or emailing Sasha.Nelson@cncc.edu.

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MHS students design unique ornaments for National Christmas Tree display in D.C.

Special to the Herald Times

MEEKER I Students from 56 schools across the country, including Meeker High School, have designed one-of-a-kind ornaments for the 2020 National Christmas Tree display on the Ellipse in President's Park. These unique ornaments will adorn 56 smaller trees that surround the National Christmas Tree. The trees represent each U.S. state, territory and the District of Columbia as part of the America Celebrates ornament display. This year, several ornaments from each school will also be displayed inside the White House.

The America Celebrates ornament program is a collaboration of

the National Park Service (NPS), the U.S. Department of Education and the National Park Foundation (NPF). The U.S. Department of Education worked through state art and education offices, which identified elementary, middle and high schools to participate in the America Celebrates program. The project is funded by the NPF.

From state flowers to notable landmarks, students created ornaments that celebrate their state, district or territory.

The America Celebrates display is one of the highlights of the National Christmas Tree experience. We'll share the virtual National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, Dec. 3 at thenationaltree.org. This year's

show will feature the recorded lighting of the National Christmas Tree, holiday performances and more. Due to COVID-19-related public health concerns, the NPS and NPF will not host a live audience this year. The show will be available to stream on-demand throughout the holiday season.

You're invited to view the National Christmas Tree and the 56 state, district and territory trees and their ornaments up close daily from Dec. 1 through Jan. 1, 2021.

The National Christmas Tree Lighting has strong ties to education. In 1923, a letter arrived at the White House from the District of Columbia Public Schools proposing that a decorated Christmas tree be placed on the South Lawn

of the White House. On Christmas Eve that year, President Calvin Coolidge walked from the Oval Office to the Ellipse and pushed a button that lit the first National Christmas Tree. It was a 48-foot balsam fir donated by Middlebury College in Vermont.

Since 1973, the National Christmas Tree has been a living tree which can be viewed year-round in President's Park — one of America's 422 national parks! A 30-foot Colorado blue spruce currently serves as the National Christmas Tree.

For more event information and updates, please visit www.thenationaltree.org or follow President's Park on Facebook or Twitter.

State report lists COVID outbreaks in RBC

By HT STAFF

RBC I A data set released by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment last Wednesday listed a total of four outbreaks in Rio Blanco County, three of which were considered "active" at the time. There have also been voluntary quarantines by businesses and organizations due to positive cases or potential exposures.

By definition, an outbreak consists of at least two positive cases in one location. This does not mean a facility has failed at prevention efforts or other safety measures. Employees who contract the virus outside of work can still trigger an outbreak and result in the closure of a facility or business.

An outbreak in the Rio Blanco County Jail was reported Nov. 19. Two residents and one staff member have tested positive.

An outbreak was also reported Nov. 19 at a Meeker business, with two positive staff cases.

Rio Blanco County's largest reported outbreak is currently at the Walbridge Wing, reported Nov. 20. Eight res-

idents and six staff members have tested positive. One resident has died as of Nov. 25. Widespread testing was performed on both staff and residents the week of Nov. 15.

According to PMC CEO Liz Sellers, "PMC is currently using the CDC's optimization strategies for PPE and based on these strategies the hospital has adequate N95 and surgical masks and hand sanitizer. The organization's fundamental goal is to provide evidence-based patient care. We have an exceptional team of professionals and safety continues to be our top priority."

The resolved outbreak on the list occurred in August, with three confirmed and one probable case reported at the time.

The state's outbreak report is updated weekly, but new outbreaks can take time to appear on the state's website due to ongoing investigations and contact tracing.

County Attorney Todd Starr told the HT the county is preparing to issue a statement next week.

The outbreak report is available at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/covid19-outbreak-data>

PERPETUAL HOPE ...



CAITLIN WALKER PHOTOS

The season of Advent started last Sunday. In lieu of inside worship, St. James Episcopal in Meeker has added advent candles outside the building for everyone to enjoy.



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December is packed with holidays!

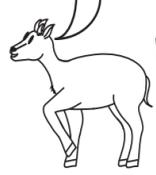
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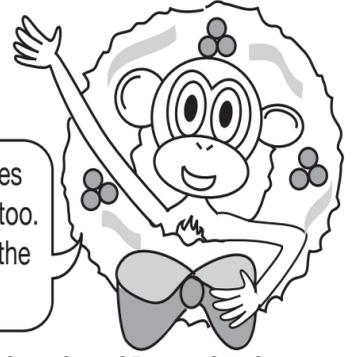
Annimills LLC © 2020 V16-46



Kids: color stuff in!



December Days

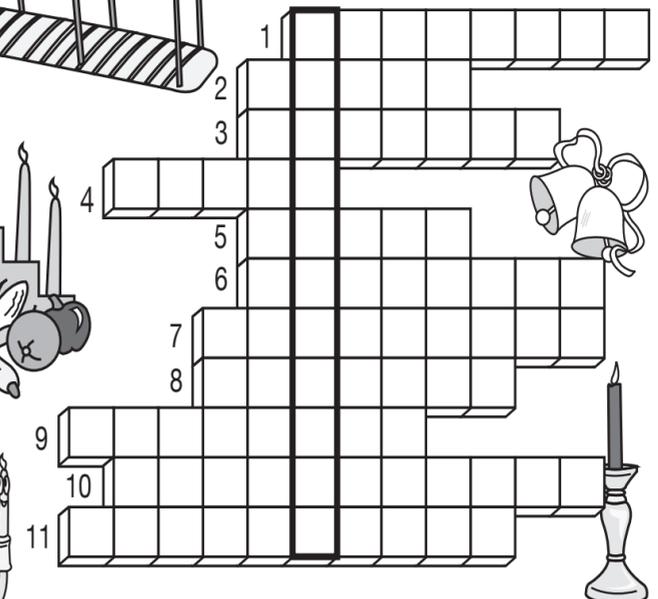
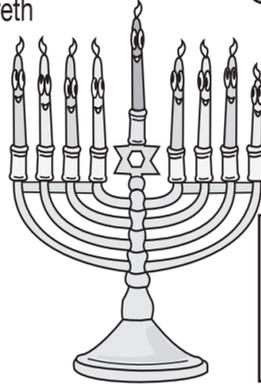


December is one of our favorite months. It is a month with many holidays, special anniversaries and birthdays. Our friends celebrate our holidays with us and we celebrate our friends' holidays too. It is a good way to learn about other families' cultures and traditions. The puzzle below is about the special days of December. **When you fill in this puzzle, the last day of December will appear!**

1. St. _____ Day – celebration of Bishop of Myra of the 4th century, known for his charity, gift-giving
2. First _____ Transplant – (1967) Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first successful transplantation at Cape Town, South Africa
3. _____ – a celebration of family and community, heritage and roots in Africa
4. Boston Tea _____ – people angry about taxes boarded a British ship in Boston Harbor to dump tea chests overboard
5. _____ Harbor Day – in 1941 the Japanese attacked U.S. naval forces in Hawaii, drawing the U.S. into WWII
6. _____ – Jewish Festival of Lights – eight-day celebration of the ancient Jews' victory over the Syrians and the return of their Holy Temple
7. _____ Day – a Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus of Nazareth
8. Las _____ – nine-day celebration in Mexico; processions of people knock on doors, asking for shelter the way Mary and Joseph did in Bethlehem
9. Wright _____ Day – in honor of Orville and Wilbur Wright, who achieved the first controlled, heavier-than-air flight
10. Pilgrim Landing _____ – in Governor William Bradford's writings, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts on Dec. 21, 1620
11. _____ Amendment – added to the U.S. Constitution, outlawing slavery in the U.S.



The last day of December is:



HEART THIRTEENTH PARTY HANUKKAH
PEARL NICHOLAS BROTHERS
KWANZAA POSADAS ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS

December

This mini calendar is just for you!
Decorate it with your special days.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

I'm flying to Rockefeller Center in New York City to check out the giant Christmas tree.



December Birthdays!

Do you know anyone who has a December birthday? Can you match up these famous people born in December to their descriptions?

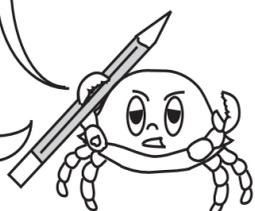
- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. Thomas Gallaudet | A. nurse, founder of American Red Cross |
| 2. Steven Spielberg | B. film director: E.T., Jaws, Jurassic Park |
| 3. Clara Barton | C. singer, songwriter |
| 4. "Ty" Cobb | D. English mathematician, scientist |
| 5. Sir Isaac Newton | E. began first school for the deaf in the U.S. |
| 6. Taylor Swift | F. U.S. baseball player – set 90 records |

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Margaret Mead | A. basketball superstar |
| 2. Ludwig van Beethoven | B. greatest composer of all time |
| 3. LeBron James | C. ha, ha - this is not a person, but a very popular game begun in 1929 |
| 4. Tyra Banks | D. developed ways to deep-freeze food |
| 5. Clarence Birdseye | E. model, actress, businesswoman |
| 6. Bingo | F. anthropologist – studied cultures |

Pop Quiz!

I am "popping" this quiz about the month of December on you. Read each clue then circle "T" if it is true or circle "F" if it is false.

Stop being crabby and finish the quiz, already!



The Month of December:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. has 22 days | T F |
| 2. "decem" means "10" | T F |
| 3. is the last month of the year | T F |
| 4. has the "shortest" day of the year | T F |
| 5. marks the end of summer | T F |
| 6. begins season of winter | T F |
| 7. sun signs are Sagittarius the Archer, and Capricorn the Goat | T F |
| 8. flower is the rose | T F |
| 9. birthstone is the diamond | T F |
| 10. has many fun celebrations | T F |



DAYS GONE BY

The Meeker Herald 125 years ago

■ A very pleasant sight was witnessed by Meekerite's Sunday morning, when a "drive" of cattle a mile long passed through back of town. The stock belonged to local owners who were shoving them down onto the winter range.

■ Inspect the holiday display in Saltmarsh's window.

The Meeker Herald 100 years ago

■ Cleveland — It looked like a riot until the police found that several hundred citizens were applying at the city hall for three jobs as whiskey testers.

❄️ Attention: Business People. The Herald is planning to get out an extra number on New Year's Day. All merchants and business people wishing to place advertising, please notify us soon. We are going to make this a boost for Meeker and Rio Blanco County.

The Meeker Herald 50 years ago

■ Highlight of the Saturday night MHS football prom was the crowning of the 1970 Queen and her attendants. The Queen is Miss Terry Treat, who makes her home with the Gerald Dickmans. First attendant is Miss Mary Cook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. James Cook, and second attendant, Miss

Vickie Schnieder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Schneider.

❄️ Former Meeker residents, Mr. and Mrs. Onea Miller of Colorado Springs, are announcing the birth of their firstborn, a son. They have named him Casey Wyatt.

The Meeker Herald 25 years ago

❄️ County Commissioner Don Davis has received the Colorado Counties Inc., Distinguished Service award for 1995.

Rangely Times 50 years ago

■ Rangely's independent Husky service station owner Don

Rooks was been announced the winner of the coveted Colorado "Dealer-of-the-Year" award.

■ Small town tax coffers rarely gain when industry comes to town, a study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture concludes.

■ Captain Mark Danielson has received a regular commission in the U.S. Air Force at Laughlin AFB, Texas.

Rangely Times 25 years ago

■ I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Larry Pedigo, the new News Editor for the Rangely Times.

❄️ You are invited to attend Family Math Night at the Parkview Elementary Gym.

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CROSSWORD

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- 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
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- 4 (2.8 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin
- 4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets
- Omaha Steaks Seasoning Packet

*Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Standard 5249 applies. ©2020 Omaha Steaks, Inc. Exp. 10/31/20

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FREE LEGAL CLINIC

MEEKER PUBLIC LIBRARY

HAPPENING
REMOTELY

Wednesday,
Dec. 9, 2020
2 to 5 p.m.

Despite the COVID-19 closures of libraries across Colorado, all Virtual Pro Se Clinic (VPC) clinics are being held as scheduled. We're able to do this because our volunteer attorneys already work remotely. Now, instead of clinic patrons coming to your local public library, your local library staff will schedule all appointments. It is especially important to provide a reliable phone number, and the volunteer attorney will call the clinic patron's telephone directly, during scheduled clinic hours. Space is limited.

PLEASE CALL 970.878.5911 TO BE ADDED TO THE SIGN UP SHEET

THEME: DISNEY
ACROSS

1. *Bambi and others like him
6. Nail a criminal
9. Use a paring knife
13. Cornucopia's shape
14. Lawyers' org.
15. Interior designer's focus
16. *Gibson Girl Ice Cream Parlor's draw
17. 1/100 of afghani
18. Tapestry
19. *Minnie Mouse's full first name
21. *Be Our Guest" performer
23. Kukui nut necklace
24. #22 Down competitor
25. Dojo pad
28. Pillow filler
30. Detected
35. Burden of proof
37. Ness' domain
39. Vernacular
40. Poker amount
41. Divvy up
43. U.S. freshwater invader
44. Relating to nose
46. Golfer's warning
47. *The Three Musketeers" dueling

word

48. Isaac of science fiction fame
50. *The Princess Diaries" leading actress
52. Pigpen
53. Candle burner
55. Greek letters on campus
57. *Remy's idol Auguste _____
61. *Pongo's mate
65. Radio sign
66. J. Edgar Hoover's org.
68. Was dishonest with, two words
69. *Iago and Kevin
70. *Scar to Simba, e.g.
71. At the point of death, archaic
72. Command to Fido
73. Seed alternative, to a landscaper
74. Loses color

DOWN

1. Fraud
2. Famous Amos
3. Before long, to Shakespeare
4. Alef and Bet follower
5. *Like a Haunted Mansion visitor
6. California valley
7. *Aladdin's sidekick
8. What football and baseball have in

Sagewood West Townhome—Rangely

FOR RENT

Available for rent – Ranch (1139 Sq. Ft.) – Unit is 3-Bdrm with 2 baths and a single car garage with a fenced in back patio area. Enjoy affordable living in modern accommodations. Please contact Janet Miller at (970) 675-8476 to inquire about the units.

Senior Housing Apartments

White River Village Apartments

Rent is determined by income for those who qualify.

The Following criteria must be met:

- Elderly (Senior Citizen)
- A person who is at least 62 years old;
- An individual with a disability;
- or an individual with a handicap.

For more information contact Janet Miller at 970-675-8476.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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*Offer valid only while supplies last. Limit one per household. Must be first time purchase. Minimum spend amount applies. Financing subject to third party credit approval. Some financing options cannot be combined with other offers and may require minimum monthly payments. All offers subject to change prior to purchase. See AmericanStandardShowers.com for other restrictions and for licensing, warranty, and company information. CSLB 9982796; Suffolk NY: 55-4314NYC; HIC 2022748-DCA. Safety Tubs Co. LLC does not sell in Nassau NY, Westchester NY, Putnam NY, Rockland NY.

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Berthelson Ranches
Bernice Blanke

Glen Papez

Stephen and Cindy Balloga

Connie M. Theos

Berthelson Ranches

John and Diana Fasbender & Mike (Harry) Reissner

CJ and SJ Gloriosio
Timothy and Judith Mohler
Renae and Paul Neilson
Rich and Carol Parr
Charles and Ellen Reichert
Lonnie and Peggy Shults

The Circle of Hope Society – HopeWest's monthly giving program – is an opportunity for you to support and sustain the future of HopeWest programs in your community. A monthly donation of any size adds up quickly and makes a significant impact.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

• BUDGET NOTICES •

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget was submitted to the Eastern Rio Blanco County Hospital Service District for the ensuing year of 2021. A copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the District at 100 Pioneers Medical Center Drive, Meeker, CO 81641 where it is open for public inspection. Such proposed budget will be considered at a special meeting of the Eastern Rio Blanco County Hospital Service District Board of Directors to be held at 100 Pioneers Medical Center Drive, Meeker, Colorado 81641 on December 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. **Due to the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting will be held electronically. Members of the public who are interested in attending this meeting can access this meeting at:** Additional access details are located at the end of this public notice.

Any interested elector of such District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget. Todd Shults Secretary **ZOOM MEETING ADDITIONAL ACCESS DETAILS:** Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 957 3556 3607 Dial by your location Passcode: 285015 Published: December 3, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE AS TO BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL

The Rio Blanco County Board of Commissioners will be considering a budget supplemental resolution on December 15, 2020, 11:00 a.m. Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse, 555 Main Street, BOCC Meeting Room, Meeker, Colorado. The proposed resolution is for the purpose of appropriating sums of money to defray expenses in excess of amounts budgeted for the 2020 budget year in the following funds: General Fund, Capital Expenditure, Road & Bridge, Public Health Agency Fund, Human Services Fund, Capital Improvement Plan Fund, Weed & Pest Control and Fairfield Complex. The resolution may be viewed at the offices of the County Clerk and Recorder, 555 Main Street, Colorado, and the County Clerk and Recorder Office in the Rangely Town Hall, 209 E. Main Street, Suite 101, Rangely, Colorado, and are open for public inspection 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on normal work days. Published: December 3 and 10, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

**Public Notice
Notice of Proposed 2021 Budget for the Yellow Jacket Water Conservancy District**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Yellow Jacket Water Conservancy District will hold a hearing on its proposed 2021 budget on **December 11, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m.** To participate in the meeting, please log into the following: <https://www.Gomeet.com/> ScottGrosscup or join by phone 1-571-748-4021 and enter 625 6985# when prompted. Copies of the proposed budget are available for inspection at the Rio Blanco County Clerk and Recorder, 555 Main Street, Meeker, CO, the Meeker Post Office, 365 6th Street, Meeker, CO, the office of the Moffat County Clerk and Recorder, 221 Victory Way, Suite 200, Craig, CO, the Craig Post Office 556 Pershing St., Craig, CO or by contacting Scott Grosscup at Balcomb & Green, P.C., 970-945-6546 or grosscup@balcombgreen.com. Any interested person within the District may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget, file or register his or her objections and/or comments for Board consideration with the District at P.O. Box 447, Meeker, CO 81641 or by contacting Mr. Grosscup. Published: December 3, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the RANGELY HOSPITAL DISTRICT for the ensuing year of 2021; that a copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the Rangely Hospital District, located at 225 Eagle Crest Drive, Rangely, Colorado 81648, where the same is open for public inspection. The final budget hearing for the proposed 2021 budget has been scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on December 10 th, 2020 at Rangely District Hospital, 225 Eagle Crest Drive, Rangely, Colorado 81648 at which time the budget will be considered by the Board of Directors for adoption. Any interested elector of the Rangely Hospital District may inspect the budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget. Published: December 3, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE AS TO ADOPTED BUDGET

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a special board meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Historic Courthouse, 555 Main St., 3rd Floor BOCC Meeting Room, Meeker, CO to adopt the 2021 Rio Blanco County Budget. All interested citizens and groups are invited to attend. The Agenda for the Budget Meeting will be: Pledge of Allegiance; Changes or Additions to the Agenda; Hearing; Procedure of Hearing; Presentation of the proposed 2021 Budget by Janae Stanworth, Budget & Finance Director; Presentation of the proposed 2021 HUTF spending by Dave Morlan, R&B Director; Questions or Comments by the Public; Consideration of Resolution to adopt the Rio Blanco County Budget for 2021; Consideration of Resolution to appropriate sums of money for 2021; Consideration of three resolutions to levy General Property Taxes for 2020, to help defray the cost of County Government, Piceance Creek Pest Control District and Lower White River Pest Control District, all for budget year 2021. Meeting to be recessed. If you need special accommodations please call 970-878-9431 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made. Please check the County's website for updates. Published: December 3 and 10, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the RIO BLANCO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT for the ensuing year of 2021. A copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the office of the RIO BLANCO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, where it is open for public inspection. The proposed budget will be considered at a regular meeting of the RIO BLANCO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, to be held at the office of the District at 240 7th Street, Meeker, Colorado, on December 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Any interested elector of the RIO BLANCO FIRE PROTECTION 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: December 3 and 10, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF BUDGET
2020 AMENDMENT**

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget amendment has been submitted to the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the RANGELY HOSPITAL DISTRICT for the current year of 2020; that a copy of such proposed 2020 budget amendment has been filed in the office of the Rangely Hospital District, located at 225 Eagle Crest Drive, Rangely, Colorado 81648, where the same is open for public inspection. The budget hearing for the proposed 2020 budget amendment has been scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on December 10th, 2020 at Rangely District Hospital, 225 Eagle Crest Drive, Rangely, Colorado 81648 at which time the 2020 budget amendment will be considered by the Board of Directors for adoption. Any interested elector of the Rangely Hospital District may inspect the 2020 budget amendment and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the 2020 budget amendment. Published: December 3, 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
December 8, 2020

- 11:00 a.m. Call to order:**
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Changes to December 8, 2020 Agenda
 - Move to approve the December 8, 2020 Agenda including any changes.**
- CONSENT AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 8, 2020**
 - Move to approve the below listed items of the Consent Agenda.**
 - Meeting Minutes of November 24, 2020.
 - Financial Management Report for November 2020.
 - DHS EBT Register and Warrant Register for November 2020.
 - Motor Vehicle Publication Report for November 2020.
- BUSINESS**
 - Grant Award Letter from Colorado Department of State for the CARES Act Primary Funding Grant in the amount of \$1,061,711
 - Quote from CDOT/Davey Coach for Radio Bus replacement in the amount of \$70,298.00
 - Final Contractor Settlement with Western Gravel Contractors, LLC for the 2020 Rio Blanco County Road 7 Bridge Replacement Project in the amount of \$21,890.74.
- MOU's, CONTRACTS, AND AGREEMENTS**
 - Move to ratify an agreement with Moon Lake Electric to upgrade service at the Radino Senior Center, for a total amount of \$9,383.10.
- OTHER BUSINESS**
 - Road & Bridge Report - Dave Morlan
 - Public Comment
 - County Commissioners Updates

Adjourn
The next regular Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 15, 2020 in the Rio Blanco County Annex Building, 17497 Hwy 64, Rangely, CO. 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: December 3, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

Fund, RDA Fund, RDC Fund, Rangely Housing Authority (White River Village) and the Rangely Foundation for Public Giving for Fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021

- Committee/Board Meetings
- Council Reports
- Supervisor Reports - See Attached
 - Don Reed
- Reports from Officers - Town Manager Update
- Old Business
 - New Business
 - Discussion and action to approve the November 2020 Check Register
 - Discussion and action to approve Resolution 2020-07, "Designating a Public Place for Posting Meeting Notices during calendar year 2021"
 - Discussion and action to approve the 2021 Certification of Mill Levy in the amount of \$168,707.70
 - Discussion and action to approve the Resolution 2020-08 of the Town Council of the town of Rangely summarizing expenditures and revenues for the General Fund, Water Fund, Wastewater Fund, Gas Fund, Conservation Trust Fund, Housing Assistance Fund, RDA Fund, and Rangely Development Corporation, and adopting for said funds budgets for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021, and ending December 31, 2021.
 - Discussion and action to approve the Resolution 2020-09 of the board of directors of the Rangely Foundation for Public Giving summarizing expenditures and revenues for the Rangely Foundation for Public Giving and adopting a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021.
 - Discussion and action to approve the Resolution 2020-10 of the Rangely Housing Authority summarizing expenditures and revenues for the Rangely Housing Authority (White River Village) and adopting for said authority a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021.
 - Informational Items
 - AGNC Legislative Report
 - Colorado Drought Activation and Response Planning
 - Board Vacancies
 - Planning and Zoning Board Vacancy
 - RDA/RDC Board Vacancy
 - Scheduled Announcements
 - Community Outreach meeting is scheduled for Dec 7, 2020 at 6:00 pm
 - Rangely District Hospital board meeting is scheduled for Dec 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm
 - Giant Step Preschool Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm
 - Rangely District Library Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 14, 2020 at 5:00 pm
 - Western Rio Blanco Park & Recreation District Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm
 - Rio Blanco County Commissioners Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 15, 2020 at 11:00 am
 - Rangely Junior College District Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 15, 2020 at 12:00 noon
 - Rangely School District Board meeting has been scheduled for Dec 15, 2020 at 6:15 pm
 - RDA/RDC Board meeting scheduled for Dec 17, 2020 at 7:30 am
 - Rangely Chamber of Commerce Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 17, 2020 at 12:00 noon
 - Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm
 - Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District Board meeting is scheduled for Dec 30, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Published: December 3, 2020 Rio Blanco Herald Times

**NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT
Meeker Recreation Center Roof Replacement**

Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation & Park District
101 Ute Road
Meeker, Colorado 81641

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation & Park District ("District") is announcing completion of the following construction project:
Meeker Recreation Center Roof Replacement
Meeker Recreation Center
101 Ute Rd
Meeker, Colorado 81641

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 38-26-107, the General Contractor, ECO Roof and Solar, and all contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, vendors and manufacturers who have provided any materials or labor in connection with this construction project, are hereby notified that the District has established **December 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. as the date of Final Settlement on this construction project.** Information regarding the Final Settlement may be obtained from the District's administrative offices, located at 101 Ute Road, Meeker, Colorado 81641. The General Contractor or any contractor, subcontractor, supplier, vendor and manufacturer who provided any materials or labor in connection with this construction project and who claims to have not been paid for all or any portion of such materials or labor, shall submit a verified statement of the amount due and unpaid on account of such claim to the District on or before the date and time established for Final Settlement. All claims shall be submitted in writing to: Sean VonRoenn, Executive Director ERBM Recreation & Park District
101 Ute Road
Meeker, Colorado 81641
EASTERN RIO BLANCO METROPOLITAN RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT, a Colorado special district and political subdivision of the State of Colorado
Published: December 3 and 10, 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 **2020PR030015**
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 Gall Circle
Address
Meeker, CO 81641
City State Zip
Published: November 19, 26 and December 3, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**Eastern Rio Blanco County
911 Emergency Telephone Service Board
Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office Training Room
355 4th Street
Meeker, CO 81641**
To attend by phone, please call: (970) 878-9402
**Proposed Meeting Agenda
December 7, 2020 - 12pm**

Call Meeting to Order
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Previous Minutes
Reports
Financial Report
Dispatch Report
Old Business
New Business
2021 Budget

- Proposed Budget Review
- Public Comment
- Budget Approval

Other Board Business
Schedule Next Meeting
Adjournment
Published: December 3, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

AGENDA
TOWN OF MEEKER PLANNING COMMISSION
Town Hall 345 Market Street
**Monday, December 7, 2020
7:00 P.M.**
Due to COVID-19 precautions, the public is invited to attend by calling 970-878-8091.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes
Public Participation
Public Hearing
Consideration of adoption of Resolution 1, Series 2020 of the Town of Meeker Planning Commission adopting the 2020 Comprehensive Plan.
Other Planning Commission Matters
Adjournment
Published: December 3, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**Meeker Cemetery District
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:30am
265 County Road 4, Meeker, CO 81641**

For the health and safety of our community, any public wishing to observe the meeting may do so by using the following zoom link.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82539616192>
Meeting ID: 825 3961 6192

- Call to order
- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes 11/5/2020
- Approve bills and deeds
- Public Input
- Old Business
- Budget 2021
- Circle Park Pond Project Update
- New Business
- Manager's Reports
- Open Discussion
- Adjourn

Published: December 3, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

• MISC NOTICES •

**INVITATION TO BID
TOWN OF DINOSAUR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS
PHASE IIIB DINOSAUR, COLORADO
November 30, 2020**

Sealed bids from qualified General Contractors will be received by the Town of Dinosaur (Owner) at 317 Stegosaurus Freeway, Dinosaur, Colorado 81610, for Phase IIIB of the Dinosaur Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project. The construction site is located at the Town's existing wastewater treatment plant, approximately 1/2-mile southeast of the Town of Dinosaur off State Highway 64. The construction for which bids are being requested generally consists of installation of a new synthetic liner in the inactive/dry second evaporative lagoon cell including the following major items:

- Site preparation including clearing and grubbing of existing inactive lagoon cell.
- Regrading of existing (inactive) evaporative lagoon cell including preparation of lagoon surface for synthetic liner installation.
- Installation of approximately 1,800 L.F. of 4-inch ADS passive gas vent piping to be placed underneath the synthetic liner.
- Installation of new inlet pipe box structure in lagoon bottom.
- Installation of new hydrostatic relief valve box structure in lagoon bottom.
- Installation of approximately 23,850 square yards of 45 mil reinforced polypropylene geomembrane liner in inactive Lagoon Cell #1.
- Modifications to existing Level Control Structure.
- Installation of Owner supplied "Solar Bee" aerator with associated mooring posts and mooring system.
- Headworks structure modifications including supply of accessory items.
- Gravel surfacing around existing lagoon access roads.

The Plans and Specifications may be examined at the following locations:

- WestWater Engineering, 2516 Foresight Circle #1, Grand Junction, Colorado 2. Dinosaur Town Hall, 317 Stegosaurus Freeway, Dinosaur, Colorado 3. Western Colorado Contractors Assoc. 2470 F Rd, #14, Grand Junction, Colorado A hard copy or e-file copy of the Plans and Specifications may be obtained by contacting WestWater Engineering, 2516 Foresight Circle #1, Grand Junction, CO 81505, (970) 241-7076. There is no charge for the Plans and Specifications.

BID DEADLINE: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 3:00 pm. Any bid received after the bid deadline will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud on January 6, 2021 at 317 Stegosaurus Freeway, Dinosaur, CO at 3:00 pm. Bids shall be submitted on the Bid Proposal form provided herein. All blank spaces on this form must be correctly filled in with ink or typewriter. In the case of a difference in written words and numerals in a proposal, the amount stated in written words shall govern, unless obviously incorrect. The Bid Proposal shall be submitted in an opaque envelope addressed as follows:
BID BY: (name and address of Bidder)
DATE AND TIME: January 6, 2021 at 3:00pm
PROJECT: Town of Dinosaur Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, Phase IIIB
TO (Owner): Town of Dinosaur
c/o Richard Blakley, Mayor 317 Stegosaurus Freeway Dinosaur, Colorado 81601

The Town's mailing address is: P.O. Box 238 Dinosaur, Colorado 81601 (Note: US Postal Service does not deliver to the Town's street address) All bids shall be accompanied by an acceptable Bid Bond, certified check, or cashier's check in an amount equal to at least 5% of the base bid proposal payable without condition to the Owner, Town of Dinosaur, as a guarantee that the Bidder, if awarded the contract, will promptly execute such contract in accordance with the Proposal and in the manner and form required by the Contract Documents and will furnish good and sufficient bond for faithful performance. Bid security of the three (3) lowest bidders will be retained until contract is awarded. Complete instructions regarding insurance, bonds, and bidding requirements are given in the Proposal. The Contractor to whom the work is awarded will be required to execute six (6) copies of the formal Agreement with the Town of Dinosaur on forms supplied by the Owner, to furnish at the Contractor's expense six (6) fully executed copies of the Contractor's Performance and Payment Bonds, and to furnish the required Certificates of Insurance within ten (10) days from the date of the Notice of Award. The Bidder/Contractor is made aware that the project is being funded through a combination of a low interest loan through the Colorado State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program as administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and a US Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) as administered through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) that requires certain state and federal guidelines to be followed. Attention is specifically called to the minimum salaries and wages (i.e., Davis Bacon wages) as set forth in the Contract Documents and that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. In the event the Bidder anticipates hiring employees to work on this project, the Bidder should contact the local Workforce Center office for qualified candidates (see Section 3 requirements in Instruction to Bidders). This project is also subject to the State Revolving Fund Required Specifications as further described in the Contract Documents, including:
1) Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wages 2) American Iron and Steel 3) National Term on Suspension and Debarment 4) Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Requirements 5) Williams Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 6) Discovery of Archaeological and Other Historical Items
The requirements for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs (DBE) have been waived for this project due to the project size. All sales tax is also exempt as a part of the project materials and supply cost as the Town of Dinosaur is a tax-exempt entity. A mandatory site visit for potential bidders will assemble at the Town Hall located at 317 Stegosaurus Freeway at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday December 17, 2020. Potential bidders can also visit the site individually by contacting the Town of Dinosaur's ORC at (970) 374-2286, but it is not a substitute for attending the mandatory pre-bid meeting. Prior to the awarding of the Contract, the Town of Dinosaur may defer its decision for a period not to exceed (60) days from the date of the opening of Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to awarding of the Contract.
By: Richard Blakley, Mayor
Town of Dinosaur
Published: December 3 and 10, 2020
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

The Meeker Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for a Program Assistant to support the operations, programs and services of the Meeker Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center. We are seeking applicants who are service-oriented and energetic with office administration and communication skills to build our membership and tourism programs. Flexible hours, up to 30 hours/week. Hourly rate is \$15-\$16 depending on experience. Call 878.5510 or visit www.meekerchamber.com for application and info.

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

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1

Employment Opportunities

District
• Food Service Cook
• Substitute Teacher
Barone Middle School
• Co-Head Coach Boys' Basketball
• Paraprofessional Interventionist

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

PIONEERS MEDICAL CENTER

With the growth of Pioneers Medical Center & Colorado Advanced Orthopedics Sports Medicine & Spine, we are excited to fill the following positions:

FULL TIME (Eligible for Benefits)
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• Certified Nurse Aide - Home Health
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• Meals on Wheels Volunteers
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• Pharmacy Technician
• Central Sterile Processing Tech
• Registered Nurse - Surgical Unit
To see full list of open positions, see our website or scan the code below:



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

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

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS Volunteer Opportunities

The following Boards have positions available. If you are interested in serving on one or more of the following Boards, please complete an Application for Board or Commission and return to: HR, PO Box i, Meeker, CO 81641 or hr@rbc.us, 970-878-9570. The Application can be found at the rbc.us website under Elected Offices & Boards. DEADLINE is 01/15/2021.

- Building Board of Appeals (Min. requirements)
- Citizens Review Panel
- Colorado River District *Deadline 01/07/2021
- Columbine Park Board
- Community Services Block Grant Board (Min. requirements)
- Council on Aging (Min. requirements)
- Fair Board
- Fairgrounds Board
- Historic Preservation Board
- Lodging Tax Board (Min. requirements)
- Meeker Cemetery
- Meeker CO Civic Improvement Corp
- Meeker Library Board
- Planning Commission
- Rangely Cemetery
- Rangely Regional Library District
- Weed Management

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

• Case Aide, part-time
• Public Health Nurse - PRN
• Relief Radino Driver, Rng
• Treasury Clerk, part-time
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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Delivery of meals for senior meals Meeker and Rangely
11:00 - 1:30 M, T, W, F
Contact White River Roundup, 878-9852

Colorado Statewide Classified Advertising Network

coloradopress ASSOCIATION NETWORK
To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado newspapers for only \$300, contact your local newspaper or call Colorado Press Association Network at 303-571-5117.

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Email: opportunity@cmresourcesinc.com

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Kent Trunk | 720.276.3293 | catrimcon@gmail.com

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~ H.G. Wells

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Window shop The Upstairs Gallery
Christmas Shop in the Hugas window.
Text or voicemail your order
with your name and items numbers.
970-779-9375
Pick up- 594 Main St door!

SAFEHOUSE

If you are being abused physically or mentally, you can call SAFEHOUSE for confidential shelter and help.
878-3131

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

RIO BLANCO Masonic Lodge #80 meets 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7:00 p.m., at 7th and Park, Meeker.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Eden Pregnancy Care Services - pregnancy tests, emergency supplies, guidance by trained volunteers, classes on pregnancy and child care, post-abortion support, referrals.
Meeker: Thursdays, Noon to 5 p.m., 345 Main Street, Meeker. Email: newedenpcs@gmail.com or (970)878-5117
Rangely: Mondays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., 219 Sunset Avenue Rangely. Email: newedenrangely@gmail.com or (970) 675-2300. All services are confidential.

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

AA & Al-Anon Meetings - Rangely Alcoholics Anonymous - Open meetings Tues & Thurs, 7 p.m., 115 Kennedy Dr., St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Rangely.
Al-Anon meets Monday, 8:15 p.m., 207 S. Sunset, 1st Baptist Church, Rangely. Al-Anon info call 970-629-5064 or 970-629-2970.
Women's NA/AA meetings, Monday 1:30 p.m., St. Timothy's.

AUCTION

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Saturday, December 5, 10 a.m.
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Rifle, Colorado

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RENTALS: MEEKER

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RENTALS: RANGELY

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RV Spaces for rent.
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5	3	1	7	2	4	8	6	9
4	2	9	6	3	8	1	5	7
1	8	2	5	4	7	9	3	6
9	7	3	8	1	6	4	2	5
6	4	5	2	9	3	7	8	1
3	1	8	4	7	5	6	9	2
7	9	6	3	8	2	5	1	4
2	5	4	9	6	1	3	7	8

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PRICE REDUCTION
Bear Mountain Inn

763 12th St.

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FRUIT ORCHARD
410 Cleveland St.

CABIN #2 AND #3
1947 + 1959 CR 12

FOR SALE IN MEEKER

Bear Mountain Inn - Income producing Bed&Breakfast w/ Apartment Unit - Beautiful Yard...\$595,000
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410 Cleveland St - 2BD/1.75BA/1,732 SF home with nice views, privacy, storage-Lg. garden...\$270,000
763 12th St - Newly updated 5BD/2BA/1,976SF home w/ fresh paint, kitchen cabinets+flooring.\$250,000
10 E Market St - Residential/Hwy. Commercial property with Water/Ice vending machine...\$250,000
1947 CR 12 - 3BD/1BA Log cabin with vaulted ceiling and fishing access on the White River...\$250,000
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1085 Pinyon St.....SOLD
1085 Main St.....SOLD
112 Main St.....SOLD

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2534 E. Main St.....SOLD
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Mallari Arnold - Associate Broker
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All advertising is subject to errors, omissions or changes without notice.

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970.878.5877

ONEA MILLER ~ Broker
oneamiller@gmail.com
970-321-2777

BROOKS REALTY
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Owner/Broker
brooksrealtymeekeer.com
(970)878-5858

- ◆ 1298 Cleveland St. — Everything you've been looking for! 4 BD, 2 BA frame built home + office, 768 SF heated detached garage. Beautiful hardwood floor on main level, quiet location and fenced backyard. REDUCED! \$317,500.
- ◆ 485 First St. — GREAT location! 3 BDR, 1 1/2 BA, open kitchen, garage, fenced yard. \$252,000. SALE PENDING!
- ◆ 225 Garfield St. — Sparkling 3 BD, 2 full bath home, LOTS of upgrades. \$183,000. SALE PENDING!
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- *Lots in Rangely- Several 6 & 8 acre lots, one 43 acre lot, on Hwy 64 in east Rangely. Residential, Ag., or Comm/Ind. Call for maps. Priced from \$51,700.
- *2101 Meath Dr.- 35 acres in Little Beaver Estates 8 miles east of Meeker. Good pasture. Great views. \$89,900.
- *TBD CR 44- 15 Acres with river, hay meadow, irrigation, 2 miles west of town. \$225,000. SOLD!
- *5807 CR 7- Vacant 20 acre parcel, 9 mi. North, on Strawberry Creek. \$75,000. SOLD!
- *395 6th St.- Residential/Commercial corner lot near post office. 2 story, 4 BR, 2 BA, beautiful hard wood floors, basement. Previously used as offices, retail and residential. Great location. \$225,000 SOLD!

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