



## Fire-related cancellations and postponements

**MEEKER** | Due to the fires, there will be no Meeker Summer Rodeo Series rodeo this week.

The Meeker Arts and Cultural Council's production of Matilda, originally set for Thursday through Saturday this week, has been postponed.

The sports competition FUNdraiser set for this weekend has also been postponed.

Forest Service lands around the Elk Fire are closed, and BLM lands around the Lee Fire are closed.

Also closed: Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area, Rio Blanco Lake State Wildlife Area, Colorow Mountain State Wildlife Area, Piceance State Wildlife Area - Little Hills Unit and North Ridge Unit.

## Know your evacuation terminology

<b>READY</b>	<p><i>Possible evacuation in your area.</i></p> <p><i>Prepare, monitor, and pack your valuables.</i></p>
<b>SET</b>	<p><i>Short notice evacuation likely in your area.</i></p> <p><i>Prepare for sudden evacuation; leave now if you need extra time.</i></p>
<b>GO</b>	<p><i>Evacuate immediately from your area.</i></p> <p><i>Leave now!</i></p> <p><i>Danger in your area.</i></p>



**RBC** | The Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office is committed to the safety and preparedness of our residents and visitors. To help everyone better understand evacuation procedures during wildfires and other emergencies, we are officially adopting the "Ready, Set, Go!" evacuation model. This nationally recognized system helps individuals and families take proactive steps before, during, and when evacuation becomes necessary.

**READY:** This level indicates a potential threat in your area. Be ready for emergencies and take personal responsibility to protect yourself, your family, and your property.

- Create a defensible space around your home.(clear brush, remove flammables)
- Prepare: an evacuation plan that includes multiple routes and designated meeting points.
- Monitor: stay informed by going directly on the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office Facebook page for ACCURATE and OFFICIAL updates and signing up for Rio Blanco Alerts.
- Pack your valuables: assemble an emergency supply kit with essentials (medications, food, water, clothing, important documents, etc.).

**SET:** This level indicates significant danger and suggests that residents should be prepared to evacuate immediately. When officials issue a set status, be alert and prepared to leave at a moment's notice.

- Prepare for sudden evacuation: have your vehicle packed with supplies and parked facing the road.
- Check on neighbors, especially those with access or mobility needs.
- Leave now if you need extra time.

**GO:** Evacuate immediately when GO is issued. Don't wait. This will only come from the Sheriff's Office.

- Delaying your evacuation can put your life and the lives of first responders at risk.

**Remember:** Only trust official sources for evacuation and emergency updates. Follow the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/RioBlancoCountySheriffsOffice>) and stay connected. Are you signed up to receive emergency notifications the moment they happen? Register today at: <https://rioblancoalerts.genasys.com/portal/en>

# ELK FIRE TO THE EAST, LEE FIRE TO THE WEST



BILL LEVY PHOTO

Pictured is a helicopter being used to fight the Elk Fire east of Meeker. Smoke from the Lee Fire darkened the sky over Meeker this week as the blaze to the west expanded dramatically, prompting multiple evacuations. The Elk Fire off County Rd. 8 to the east of Meeker also prompted evacuations. As of press time Wednesday morning, the fires had burned more than 30,000 acres in Rio Blanco County. Weather conditions were not expected to improve through the rest of the week. As conditions are changing rapidly, we are updating the HT website as new information comes in, and have turned off the payroll for fire-related stories. Visit the RBC Sheriff's Office Facebook Page, and make sure you are signed up for Rio Blanco Alerts (see links in the story at left). To see an interactive map for evacuation information visit <https://tinyurl.com/2fm98pe7>



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Fire crews were staged at the Fairgrounds early Tuesday.

# Colorado Parks and Wildlife confirms chronic depredation events in Rio Blanco County

PRESS RELEASE

**RBC** | Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has confirmed three depredation events caused by an uncollared wolf in Rio Blanco County on July 20, 22, and Aug. 2, 2025. Of these depredations one was determined by clear and convincing evidence to have been caused by a wolf with the other two being determined by a preponderance of evidence to have been caused by

a wolf. As such this situation meets CPW's definition of Chronic Depredation.

Since the first depredation event on July 20, 2025, CPW has been coordinating with producers and local woolgrowers associations to provide around the clock range rider coverage while opportunistically hazing the wolf. Range riding efforts supplemented existing non-lethal conflict minimization tools already deployed by

the producer as determined by a site assessment conducted earlier this year to discourage depredation on these allotments.

Under normal circumstances this situation would warrant lethal removal operations in the area, however, the allotments where the depredations occurred are under evacuation due to the Elk Fire. As such CPW's primary concerns are the safety of staff deployed to the area and safety of the community.

CPW is continuing to monitor the situation in Rio Blanco County while coordinating with emergency services to prioritize human safety and minimize loss of livestock.

"This is a truly unprecedented set of circumstances and my thoughts are with the firefighters and the emergency responders who are working to minimize damage in Rio Blanco County, as well as the producers and CPW's staff," said Jeff Davis, director of CPW.



## Survey markers preserve Meeker’s layout — and save homeowners money

By **JARED HENDERSON**  
jared@ht1885.com

**MEEKER** | A few small nails hidden in the streets of Meeker connect modern-day property lines to maps drawn more than a century ago. As those markers disappear, so does the town’s ability to know exactly where anything begins or ends.

What are those small, round metal markers in the middle of Meeker’s intersections — and why do they matter?

According to longtime local surveyor Jim Joy, they’re more important than most residents realize.

“These survey markers were set long before my time,” Joy said. “They’re located at the centerline intersections of streets, and they’re key to establishing property boundaries in the old town of Meeker.”

Joy said the markers were likely set by early surveyors, possibly Mr. Wharton or Mr. Raley. Many of the original corner markers didn’t last long, but some have endured.

“The ones that were there 40 years ago or so, I use those — as should any

surveyor — to determine property owners,” he said.

Originally, the markers were installed as simple nails driven through washers. They served as control points from which surveyors could calculate block corners and individual lot boundaries.

In fact, understanding the layout of Meeker’s downtown blocks requires a bit of local surveying history.

Years ago, surveyors Mr. Wharton and Mr. Raley placed spikes through washers at street centerline intersections across Meeker. These “controlling corners” were set in many intersections from First Street to 13th Street and from Water Street to Pine Street. Though not every intersection had one, many did — and their role remains critical today.

Lot corners within Blocks 1 through 112 are mathematically controlled by these street centerline monuments.

Take Block 22 as an example. To locate the corners of a lot there, a surveyor would search for a monument at the intersection of Cleveland and Sixth streets. Then, they’d connect that point with monuments at Garfield and Sixth, Garfield and Seventh, and Cleveland

and Seventh. With those four points established, the surveyor can calculate the entire block and, eventually, the exact position of the individual lot requested.

Not all of those points remain.

“Controlling corners along Sixth Street no longer exist,” Joy said. “Add to that two more controlling corners, using a metal detector, appear to have been lost or destroyed.”

When that happens, surveyors must reach farther out to find intact markers, reconstructing the missing data from the next nearest available intersections. The more work required in the field, the more time — and money — it costs property owners.

“So the more of these get knocked out, the more it costs the consumer,” Joy said. “And that’s what I’m trying to — trying to help the people of Meeker who at some point may need a survey on their lot. And I can tell you, sometimes you have to go a long way to reestablish that.”

To help preserve these key reference points, Joy has been advocating for the town to implement a straightforward policy: before any in-house work or construction by an out-

side contractor, a surveyor should locate and record the controlling corner. After the work is done, the contractor or the town should have a surveyor return to reset the monument in accordance with local requirements.

“In areas I’ve worked, that means setting a range box with a monument inside — similar to a water valve box with a lid,” Joy said.

While most lots in town depend on these centerline markers, there are exceptions. For example, some properties that touch the “Official Revised Map of the Town of Meeker,” dated 1919, may follow slightly different boundary control rules.

When markers are removed, paved over or destroyed — whether by utility work, resurfacing or construction — the surveying process becomes much more complex.

“It’s all about protecting the consumer,” Joy said. “If those corners get knocked out, we have to go further and do more work to reestablish them. That means more money for the homeowner or developer down the road.”

Other communities already require similar practices and, in many cases, hold contractors responsible for resetting monuments if they’re disturbed. Joy noted that towns can even use water meter-style boxes to keep costs down while still protecting the markers from being lost.

“These markers aren’t just useful — they’re historically significant,” he said.

Joy pointed to a marker near Ninth Street, a Meeker townsite boundary corner originally set in 1904, which still stands today thanks to local recognition of its importance.

The corner, inscribed with “MTC” for “Meeker Townsite Corner,” was once protected by a fence installed with help from the county.

Although GPS and modern software have made surveying faster, Joy emphasized that they don’t replace the need for the original control points.

“If we want to preserve our town’s layout and keep costs down for future homeowners, we need to protect the few remaining markers we have,” Joy said. “I wish I had started pushing for this 30 years ago.”

As Meeker continues to grow and modernize, preserving these small but essential pieces of its original layout could save time, money and confusion — while also honoring more than a century of careful planning beneath its streets.

### RIO HAPPENINGS: JULY 27-AUG 2, 2025

#### ARRESTS

8/2/2025- Meeker PD arrested a 34 year-old male for Driving Under the Influence. He was issued a summons and released to a sober party.

8/4/2025-Rio Blanco County Sheriff’s Office arrested a 71 year-old male for Driving Under the Influence. He was issued a summons and released to a sober party.

8/2/2025- Rio Blanco County Sheriff’s Office arrested a 71 year-old male for Driving Under the Influence. He was issued a summons and released to a sober party.

7/29/2025 @ 4:01 am. A vehicle missed the turn from County Road 8 onto Highway 13 and went through a fence. The single occupant was not injured. Meeker PD is investigating the accident.

7/31/2025 @ 12:05 pm. A two car accident at Highway 13 & Highway 64 resulted in several injured occupants. All injured parties were transported to the hospital. Colorado State Patrol is investigating the accident.

8/1/2025 @ 5:46 pm. A pickup pulling a horse trailer crashed into an irrigation ditch at Highway 64 & County Road 7. There was one horse in the trailer that was not injured. The driver was transported to the hospital.

8/2/2025 @ 12:36 pm. Black smoke was reported near the 11 mile-marker on County Road 8. Meeker Volunteer Fire Dept. responded. This has been named the Elk Fire and is still active as of 8/5/2025.

8/2/2025 @ 4:54 pm. A fire was reported on the top of County Road 3. BLM Fire responded. This has been named the Lee Fire and is still active as of 8/5/2025.

8/2/2025 @ 9:31 pm. The Sheriff’s Office assisted Rangely PD for a male party that was reportedly laying on the sidewalk in town limits. Turns out the male was just peacefully taking a snooze on his trek to Texas.

8/4/2025 @ 5:14 pm. A driver, clearly full of liquid courage, decided the fire closure on County Road 8 was just a suggestion and

became the tour guide for the cars following him. The driver was stopped by a deputy and taken into custody for DUI.

TOTAL CALLS: 538 — 911 CALLS: 59 — ADMIN: 479		
CALL TYPE	SHERIFF	MEEKER PD
911	1	3
ABANDONED VEHICLE	1	1
ABUSE	1	0
ANIMAL	4	7
ASSIST COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE	1	0
ASSIST COLORADO STATE PATROL	6	0
ASSIST MEEKER PD	1	0
ASSIST MEEKER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT	1	0
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	3	0
ASSIST RANGELY PD	5	0
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE	1	1
ATTEMPT TO SERVE	7	0
BUSINESS CHECK	5	6
CITIZEN ASSIST	1	0
CITIZEN CONTACT	1	1
CIVIL	0	1
CIVIL STANDBY	1	0
CRASH	1	0
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	0	1
DIRECTED PATROL	1	3
DUI	0	1
FINGERPRINTS	1	0
FIRE - WILD	2	0
FOLLOW UP	0	2
INFORMATION	3	3
JUVENILE PROBLEM	1	1
MISSING PERSON	1	0
MOTORIST ASSIST	4	6
NOISE COMPLAINT	0	1
PHONE	2	3
PROPERTY	1	1
SMOKE REPORT	1	0
SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT	1	3
THEFT	2	1
TRANSPORT - JAIL	2	0
TRESPASS	1	1
TRAFFIC HAZARD	2	0
TRAFFIC STOP	19	3
VIN INSPECTON	2	5
WELFARE CHECK	0	1
TOTALS	87	56
TOTAL INMATES IN JAIL AS OF 8/5/2025: 4		

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**Submit requests to:**

Tom Allen  
PO Box 985, Meeker, CO 81641  
or email to: Tomallen4@hotmail.com

**Questions? Call 970-629-5139**

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pioneershospital.org

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Community theater production of 'Matilda' postponed

**MEEKER** | The Meeker Arts and Cultural Council's production of Roald Dahl's "Matilda: The Musical" scheduled for this weekend has been postponed due to the wildfires and will be rescheduled.

## Circle Park remains closed during final construction

**MEEKER** | The public is reminded that Circle Park remains closed to the public during final construction. Unauthorized access may result in a trespass violation. To enjoy the river, use the new access ramps at 3rd Street and 10th Street for water entry and exit. For continued project updates, visit [erbmrec.com/news](http://erbmrec.com/news) or call 970-878-3403.

## Youth Coed Volleyball this August

**MEEKER** | Youth Coed Volleyball returns in August! Third and fourth grade will practice Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning Aug. 18. Fifth and sixth graders will practice Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning Aug. 19. Sign up by Aug. 13 at [erbmrec.com/register](http://erbmrec.com/register). If you need assistance, call the Front Desk at 970-878-3403.

## ERBM fall activities coming soon

**MEEKER** | ERBM Recreation & Park District's fall activity calendar is coming soon! Sign up for our mailing list by visiting [www.erbmrec.com/myaccount](http://www.erbmrec.com/myaccount), then navigate to the Address Information tab and select, "I would like to receive ERBM communications by mail." If you need help, call the Front Desk at 970-878-3403. Registration for fall activities opens Friday, Aug. 8.

## MHS Summer Football Clinic Aug. 13

**MEEKER** | Learn the fundamentals of football from Meeker High School athletes! Coaches and team members will teach a sports clinic Wednesday, Aug. 13, at the BMS Practice Field. Kindergarten through fifth grade will practice from 10-11:30 a.m. Sixth through eighth grade will practice from 1-2 p.m. \$5/person at the door, cash or check only. All proceeds benefit MHS Athletics!

## Septemberfest at the TANK Aug. 30-Sept. 1

**RANGELY** | For this year's Septemberfest, the TANK presents a rare treat, a three-day recorded installation of gorgeous medieval singing from New York's much-praised early music group TENET. TENET has won acclaim for its innovative programming, virtuosic singing and command of a repertoire spanning the Middle Ages to the present. In The TANK, these sacred songs will be uplifting and transcendental. Presented free of charge, Aug. 1-Sept. 1. 9am-1pm and 7-9pm Saturday and Sunday.

Submit your community calendar events to [editor@ht1885.com](mailto:editor@ht1885.com) or mail to PO Box 720, Meeker CO 81641.



The Herald Times proudly supports YouthZone, a nonprofit that provides assessment, court advocacy, substance education, and counseling to at-risk youth in Rio Blanco, Garfield, and Pitkin Counties. To learn more and donate, visit [www.youthzone.com/give](http://www.youthzone.com/give).

## What's missing here?

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Call  
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[ads@ht1885.com](mailto:ads@ht1885.com)



Please join us in our excitement as Faith Baptist Church moves to its new home on the southeast corner of Third Street and Sanderson Drive.

Our tentative plan is to have our first worship service on Aug. 17 at 11 a.m. preceded by Sunday School at 10 a.m. We will have a temporary sign up soon for all to see.

After 40 years at our 11th and Garfield location, we have outgrown our space. Our Baptist beliefs and traditional music will move with us. That will not change.

The Church is a fellowship of believers, not a building made of wood. Although the move may delay the start of our Fall youth programs we feel that the new facility will allow us to grow our children's ministry.

If you know of someone who needs a spacious residence or commercial opportunity on Garfield, please contact Bailey Waldref at 970-274-9062.

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THE FIRST TO FORGIVE IS THE STRONGEST.  
THE FIRST TO FORGET IS THE HAPPIEST."

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3 lb. Bag Sweet • Halos

\$4.49



**Cucumbers**  
Large Crisp

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ea.



**Tomatoes**  
Red Cluster

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lb.



**Golden Honeydew**  
Sweet & Juicy

99¢

lb.

### DAIRY & FROZEN SPECIALS

- Butter**  
Food Club 1 lb. Salted or Unsalted \_\_\_\_\_ **\$3.49**
- Cheese**  
Food Club 32 oz. Select Varieties Shredded or Block \_\_\_\_\_ **\$5.99**
- Sherbet or Ice Cream**  
Crav'n Flavor 48 oz. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$3.29**
- Cottage Cheese or Sour Cream**  
Food Club 24 oz. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$1.99**
- Breaded Chicken**  
Paradise Kitchen 4 lb. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$11.99**
- Yogurt**  
Activia 12 ct. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$5.99**

### GROCERY SPECIALS

- Lunchables**  
Uploaded 5.67-5.79 oz. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$3.99**
- Snacks**  
Doritos, Ruffles or Smartfood 6-10.8 oz. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$3.99**
- Cookies**  
Crav'n Flavor 11.3-16 oz. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$2.79**
- Pudding Snacks**  
Food Club 4 ct. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **4/\$5**
- Sports Drinks**  
Powerade 28 oz. Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **99¢**
- Coke Products**  
2 Liter Bottles • Select Varieties \_\_\_\_\_ **\$2.99**

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## EDITOR'S COLUMN Take care of yourselves and each other

“When you face a crisis, you know who your true friends are.” ~ Magic Johnson

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



As I write this on Wednesday morning, many of our friends and neighbors have either been evacuated due to the fires or are waiting to be told to evacuate. The skies are a little more clear today. And there's always hope.

Last night I drove out to the intersection of Hwys.13 and 64. It looked like a war zone. I went home and prepped, trying to figure out how I was going to get my pets and my daughter's pets (they're on vacation, thankfully) out in one car. So far, so good here in town, but a shift in conditions could change that at any moment.

For those who haven't been through a wildfire season, and these two fires have certainly been different than the ones we've experienced in previous years, it's nerve racking. Any crisis brings out the best — and the worst — in

us all. If you're of the anxious variety (\*raises hand) there's been little sleep and a lot of frenetic scrambling on the internet to find information.

If you're more of the of the controlling type it becomes a fight to find personal agency, to DO something. For some that means packing and preparing to leave, for others it means finding a way to volunteer or give back, and for some it puts their keyboard warrior mouthiness into overdrive. If you can't do something, you can always pick fights on social media over trivial nonsense to make yourself feel better.

One thing we should all be doing is to remember to be kind, show each other grace, and be present in the moment. I've caught my admittedly overactive imagination running away with the show more than once over the last few days and as it ramps up into panic mode (the body responds to the brain as if

the imagined scenario is real), stopping to breathe and remind myself that I'm safe right this minute and the people responding to the situation are competent, effective, and doing their level best to keep us that way, has helped stopped the spiral.

Talking to friends helps, too. I'm grateful to the friends and family who have checked in, both near and far, and reminded me I'm not alone. We're all in this together, and we need to remember that.

Much gratitude goes to our local county and town officials and employees and volunteers who have worked nonstop to keep accurate information flowing, to take care of evacuees, and to keep us safe.

Many thanks also to the firefighters who swoop in to assist our local crews, bringing not just equipment and expertise, but an objectivity that's necessary.

In the days ahead we'll likely need to sit with those who've been most impacted, hold their hands, let them grieve,

and weep with them. And we'll all need to do some internal work to reset ourselves after an experience that shakes our sense of security and safety.

The “bug-out” guidelines for being ready to evacuate list five P's to have to take with you: paperwork (a lot of this stuff is online now, but things like passports and birth certificates and licenses still need to be collected), prescriptions, pets (even if you just have cats and dogs, this can get a little complicated... my scramble to find a cat carrier yesterday was a reminder that I should probably own one, even if I never need to put my indoor kitty in it). The last one, priceless items, is wildly subjective. As I looked around my house I realized that the only really priceless things are my people and pets. Everything else is just stuff, and stuff can be replaced.

It's time to get pages off to the printer, so I'm signing off. Lord willing we'll be back to “normal” sooner rather than later.

Our love to you all. Keep the faith.

### HISTORY LESSONS: Meeker's Founders — Samuel Fairfield

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** In preparation for the Town of Meeker's 140th birthday in September, we are publishing the histories of the Town's founders who's names are listed at the White River Museum and on the plaque on the boulder in front of the courthouse. If you would like to participate in a Founders' Day celebration (basically a giant birthday party) on Sept. 27 please contact editor@ht1885.com or call 970-878-4017.

By **ED PECK**  
Special to the HT

Samuel Fairfield is named as the vice-president of the new



Samuel Fairfield 1883 Meeker Townsite Company.

The name Fairfield should ring a bell. Fairfield Center, Freeman Fairfield Foundation among other things were named after Freeman Edwin Fairfield who made his fortune in California providing tools

and oilfield equipment to pioneer oil men in the 1920's. Freeman's investments are still benefiting Rio Blanco County to this day. Freeman was named after his grandfather, Freeman W. Fairfield. Samuel was the older brother of Freeman W. Fairfield. Samuel came to the Wyoming Territory in 1868. In the 1870 Federal Census, he is listed as a mill wright at South Pass, Wyoming. The census page was filled with other men listed as “miner, quartz gold.” No doubt, quick riches was on Samuel's mind when he moved his wife and two small children to Wyoming. In the 1880 Federal Census, Sam-

uel is listed in Lander, Sweetwater County, Wyoming, as “Freighter.” Lander was also in the South Pass gold mining region. The Oregon and California trails were nearby. Settlers in wagon trains westward bound kicked up a lot of dust. They were following their dream. Samuel saw his future here.

He was freighting for Hugus and Company out of Rawlins even before the Army pulled out of Camp on the White River. Samuel saw the potential and urged his brother, Freeman to bring his family to Meeker. Samuel bought stock in the Meeker Townsite in 1883. Samuel, Frank Sheridan, and E.P. Wilber dug the first town ditch in the spring of 1884. Freeman arrived

in Meeker in 1884. Sam and brother, “Freem” together freighted from Rawlins to Meeker. The newspaper Democratic Leader April 23, 1885 issue reported that Samuel Fairfield was bidding on the Army freighting contract from Rawlins to Ft. Washakie, a route of 135 miles one way. The Meeker Herald October 3, 1885 issue reported that Freeman Fairfield had arrived with 53,000 pounds of freight for J.W. Hugus and Company and had already started out on his return. Samuel proved up a homestead outside Meeker in 1892. I believe he never gave up his interest in the South Pass mining area. In the April 5, 1894 issue of the Rock Springs Miner, Samuel was reported to be promoting the mining

interests of Sweetwater mines in Denver. I lost track of him until Samuel appeared in the 1900 Census Marysville, Grant, Oregon. Samuel was listed alone working as a gold miner. I could not find his wife in the 1900 census, but his two sons, Frank and Charlie were in Butte, Montana, working as teamsters in a copper mining area. His wife, Sarah Betsy Traver Fairfield died 1905 in Butte, Montana. Samuel Fairfield died January 2, 1919 in Council, Idaho.

Sources: This Is What I Remember books; Rio Blanco Historical Society; 1870, 1880, 1900; Federal Census; 1869 Wyoming Census; Ancestry.com; BLM-GLO; Ancestry.com; Newspaper archivist in Butte, MT.

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**CHUCKWAGON RADINO**

*Menu*

AUG 11-14/15

<b>Monday</b>
Ham salad sandwich, clam chowder soup, lettuce & pickle spear, apple
<b>Tuesday</b>
Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes & gravy, brussel sprouts
<b>Wednesday</b>
Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, ice cream cup
<b>Thursday/Friday</b>
Sweet & sour chicken, rice, oriental vegetables, fortune cook

Please call by 8am to reserve a meal.  
 (Chuckwagon 878-9671) (Radino 878-9638)  
 Suggested donation: \$2.50 for over 60 and \$10.25 for under 60.  
 All Menu Items Are Subject to Change

**MUSEUM MUSINGS:**  
Letters from history No. 93

**Office of Indian Affairs Washington, DC**

*HON. C. SCHURZ*  
*Muscogee, Indian Territory*

Dispatches received today from Agent Meeker convey information of an expected outbreak by his indians. A later dispatch from Rawlins reports that Major Thornburgh's command was attacked by

**13th Amendment**

**Section 1**  
Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

**Section 2**  
Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Continuing our community history.**

**HERALD TIMES**  
304 4th Street  
P.O. Box 720  
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**970-878-4017**  
[ht1885.com](http://ht1885.com)

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COURTESY PHOTO

Kevin Watt, Hopewest chaplain.

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OBITUARY

Shirley Kay Nickson  
Oct. 4, 1935 ~ Dec. 14, 2024

Shirley Kay Nickson, fondly known to family and friends as "Kay," died Dec. 14, 2024, in Grand Junction, Colorado. She was 89.

Kay was a vibrant, happy and giving soul, deeply committed to her family, friends and community.

She was born Oct. 4, 1935, in Walla Walla, Washington, to Otha N. and Helen Campbell. An only child, she always dreamed of having a large family — a wish she joyfully fulfilled.

On Sept. 6, 1953, she married Earl Schoenrock, and together they welcomed three children: Wayne, Dena and Janalee. After the couple divorced, Kay moved to California, where she worked for Rocketdyne. There, she met and later married Richard L. Nickson on Dec. 8, 1961. Together, they had two more daughters, Gelean and Lilydee.

The family eventually settled in Rangely, Colorado, where they became longtime community members. There, they formed a close bond with friends Rachel and Buck Palmer and spent 13 summers together at a cabin in the South Fork area near Meeker, Colorado — a cherished time full of learning, laughter, practical jokes and lasting friendship.



Kay Nickson

Kay's career reflected her spirited and service-driven nature. She worked as an animal control officer in Rangely, where her dedication led to the establishment of a new animal shelter. She later graduated from the Police Academy Program at Colorado Northwestern Community College and served as a certified Rangely police officer until her retirement.

After retiring, Kay and Richard enjoyed traveling in their motorhome, spending summers at Flaming Gorge, Utah, and winters in Arizona with their beloved toy poodles, Him and We, their standard poodle, Pooh, and their cat, Ms. Kitty.

Later in life, the couple served as camp hosts at Rangely Camper Park, where they welcomed travelers from near and far. Kay especially loved meeting new people and making them feel at home. The park became a gathering place for family and friends, with camp-

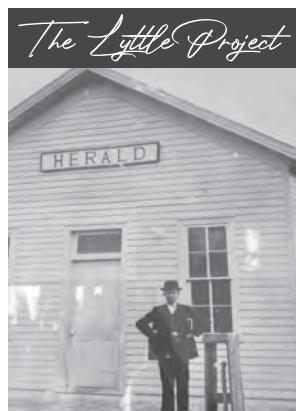
fires, music, games and shared stories.

Kay's love for her family never wavered, even in hard times. Her strength, joy and warmth continue to inspire those who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Otha Campbell and Helen Goodnight; her husband, Richard Nickson; a granddaughter, Lacey Nickson; and a son-in-law, Bernie Shafer. Survivors include her children: Wayne R. Nickson (Annalee) of Rangely, Dena Kay Hutton of Mena, Arkansas, Janalee Storey (Rod) of Rangely, Gelean Bell of Mena, and Lilydee Chumacero (Juan) of Rangely; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Kay's life will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, 2025, at the Rangely Camper Park. A light dinner will follow, along with a blazing campfire and the sharing of stories in her honor.

Her legacy lives on in the laughter, love and memories she leaves behind.



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## Five and Flying: Meeker Marlins ride the wave to another state title



COURTESY PHOTO

The Meeker Marlins hold up five fingers in celebration of their fifth consecutive Colorado seasonal state championship, earned at the 2025 state meet in Cortez. The team broke 21 records and brought home multiple individual honors during the standout performance. From back left to right: Dexter Chinn, Sebastian Baumgart, Tucker Chinn, Tristan Borchard and Isaiah Gianinetti; front left to right: Aerie Smuts, Evie Borchard, Fletcher Chinn, Adrian Baumgart, Tinlie Strate, Head Coach Shelly Rogers and a meet official.

By JARED HENDERSON  
jared@ht1885.com

**MEEKER** | They're known as the Meeker Marlins, and they have become a force to be reckoned with.

This past weekend in Cortez, the Marlins swam their way to a fifth consecutive Colorado seasonal state championship, extending a dominant streak that now spans half a decade. They did it in style — setting state records, earning top individual honors, and breaking more than 20 team records along the way.

This year, changes to the classification system bumped the Marlins from the small team division to medium, based on the number of entries submitted. Despite bringing just 10 swimmers to the state meet, eight of them qualified for 10 or more events, adding up to 86 total swims — enough to compete with much larger teams.

"We thought, 'Uh oh, are we gonna win this year? We're not a

small team anymore,'" said head coach Shelly Rogers. "And we won — for the fifth time in a row. A five-peat."

Leading the charge was standout swimmer Tucker Chinn, who shattered three state records — in the 50 backstroke, 50 butterfly and 50 fly — and was named Male Athlete of the Year. Remarkably, Chinn wasn't even on the ballot and won the award as a write-in candidate.

"I think out of the three records I broke, the 50 butterfly meant the most to me because I broke the record of a 25.57 by almost a whole second, getting a 24.62, which is a very considerable amount of time for a short sprint race," Chinn said. "I was completely not expecting to get Male Athlete of the Year because there had been so many nominations before my name was even mentioned. I am extremely grateful, especially for Coach Shelly, and very honored to have received

this award."

Chinn wasn't the only one turning heads. He and his younger brother Fletcher Chinn both earned first-place high point awards, while Evelyn Borchard, Sebastian Baumgart and Adrian Baumgart claimed second-place honors. High point awards are given to swimmers in each age group who accumulate the most points across their events, regardless of team size.

"These awards aren't divided by divisions," Rogers said. "They're for all 13 teams at state — big, small and medium. For half our swimmers to finish in the top two is amazing."

In total, the Marlins broke 21 team records at the meet, and nearly every swimmer achieved a personal best, falling short in only a few events.

The secret to their success? Rogers pointed to hard work, team spirit and a relentless drive to improve. Several swimmers

even arrived early to morning practices, getting in extra laps before official workouts began.

"They weren't asked to do that," Rogers said. "They chose to. That kind of commitment really shows."

The Marlins also had help from outside the pool. Dexter Chinn, another member of the team, sang the national anthem at the competition on two different days, earning recognition from athletes, coaches and spectators alike for his vocal performance and sportsmanship. Which was another highlight from the state meet.

When asked what it meant to win the title for a fifth straight year, Rogers said the feeling was hard to put into words.

"These guys work so hard during the season," she said. "Our practices are from 7:30 to 9 a.m., and a handful of them come in at

Cont. on P7

## MHS alum Burri returns to Meeker golf program as head coach

By JARED HENDERSON  
jared@ht1885.com

**MEEKER** | Returning to lead the boys golf program at his alma mater, 2016 Meeker High School graduate Nick Burri says he's honored and excited to give back to a sport that's been a lifelong passion. Though he played high school golf for Rangely—due to Meeker not having a team at the time—he's thrilled to see the program still thriving, and now to be part of it.

"It's been a really easy transition," Burri said. "Knowing the people involved has helped a lot, and I've had a ton of support. I just hope to help the kids enjoy the game the same way I do."

Last season, the team had 15 players on the roster, and Burri credited former coach Willy Theos for building a strong foundation.

"That kind of interest at the high school level is awesome," he said. "I just want to keep the program classy and build on what's already been started."

Burri's coaching philosophy focuses as much on mindset as it does on mechanics.

"Golf is a frustrating game, so we're working on staying positive and mentally strong—because that helps in life, too," he said.

Preseason has mostly consisted of individual practice sessions, although Burri hosted an open practice to bring the group together. When asked which tournaments he's most looking forward to this season, his answer was simple: the Rangely tournament.

"I'm really excited for the Rangely tournament, mostly because I know that course really well and to meet up with their new head coach, Clark Edwards—congrats to him—who is a good friend

of mine," Burri said. "It will be good to get the kids on the team on a solid golf course that is close to Meeker."

As for challenges, Burri said his main focus is preparing players to handle adversity.

"Just from my own golf career, I know high scores happen in tournaments—trust me, I know firsthand," he said. "Just making sure the kids are ready to handle that adversity and be able to move on from bad days if they happen."

When asked what would make the season a success, Burri said it's all about keeping things in perspective.

"I sound like a broken record, but if everyone has fun and enjoys playing golf at the end of the season, that would be a success," he said. "In addition to that, if there's improvement in everyone's golf game, that would be fantastic—and that's what I'm there to do



Nick Burri

and aiming for."

With a mix of returning players and promising newcomers, Burri said he's excited to see how the team grows throughout the 2025 season.

As the team prepares to tee off for another season, Burri is focused on building confidence, consistency and a lifelong appreciation for the game—one swing at a time.



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## Rodeo lights and fair fun highlight week seven of Meeker Summer Rodeo Series

By JARED HENDERSON  
jared@ht1885.com

**MEEKER** | Under the glow of arena lights and with the smell of funnel cakes drifting from the nearby fairgrounds, Week Seven of the Meeker Summer Rodeo Series brought the town together once again for fast times and tough competition.

The night kicked off with steer riding, where three contestants vied for a \$388 prize. None of the riders stayed on for the required eight seconds, allowing the pot to grow to \$446 for next week's winner.

In the open team roping event, national anthem singer Colton Kreider and his teammate Brett Watson claimed the top spot with a time of 11.65 seconds. The duo advanced to the #8 team roping division, where Lee Burton and D. Stoltzfus won with a run of 7.94 seconds.

Kreider wasn't done yet. He picked up a second win in the Dally Ribbon Roping event alongside William S., finishing in 18.94 seconds.

In the open breakaway event, Ripley Bellio earned her fourth win of the series with a time of 3.43 seconds. Bellio previously won the first three weeks of the series in the ladies breakaway event.

"It feels good to get lucky and pull off another win. It's definitely been a minute—just placing here and there but not necessarily winning," Bellio said. "I know that every time I enter there is another chance to win. Dry spells don't always last."

Bellio rode her horse, Chrome, who she's been competing on throughout the series.

"He has mostly been used as a team roping horse, so it's been a struggle to jump back and forth between events

and not be able to practice just in the breakaway," she said. "But I'm excited for future runs with hope to get more time in the practice pen."

In the ladies breakaway event, Fallon Neilson picked up her fourth win of the series with a time of 5.18 seconds. Neilson previously won the open breakaway event in Week Six and the ladies breakaway in both Weeks Four and Five.

There was no winner in the junior breakaway event, rolling over \$26 into the pot for Week Eight.

In the open barrels, Taylor Davis of Rifle, Colorado, picked up another win with a time of 17.97 seconds. Davis has now won five times this season—three in the open breakaway (Weeks One, Three and Five) and two in open barrels (Weeks Six and Seven). She clocked 17.92 seconds in her previous barrel win.

In junior barrels, Landree Tate took the win with a time of 19.98 seconds.

There were no mutton busters that evening. In the first section of bull riding, Caleb Gieselman of Rifle scored 83.25 points to earn the lead. He was offered a re-ride but declined.

In the second section, all riders returned, and it was Cowboy Wyatt Powell of Hamilton who claimed the \$500 prize. Powell edged out Gieselman's score with 84.5 points.

Due to nearby wildfires and safety concerns, there will be no rodeo this Thursday. Week Eight of the Meeker Summer Rodeo Series has been postponed.

The series is expected to resume the following week, with slack beginning at 6 p.m. and the main performance starting at 7 p.m. as usual.



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

**Ripley Bellio rides her horse Chrome during Week Seven of the Meeker Summer Rodeo Series, where she picked up her fourth win of the season—this time in the open breakaway event. Bellio previously won the first three weeks in the ladies breakaway. Jared Henderson photo**

## (Cont.) Meeker swim team wraps fifth consecutive seasonal state championship

Cont. from P8

7 just to get extra yardage in. For us to be able to swim that well in just two months and really stand out among these other teams — it's amazing."

Rogers said the team's maturity also played a role in their continued success.

"They're realizing that they need more yardage," she said. "They come in at that 7 a.m. time. I just put on the board what they should be doing for that first half hour because I have to work, but they do it on their own. I didn't tell them they had to. Half the team just came in and did it. I think that made a big difference this year as well."

Looking ahead to next season and the possibility of a sixth straight title, Rogers kept it simple.

"We're gonna keep working, and we're gonna keep going to the meets," she said. "We're going to swim with these year-round teams. We're going to swim long course."

Rogers also credited the Western Slope's competitive swimming culture, pointing to regular matchups with year-round swimmers from teams in Aspen, Grand Junction and Montrose. That higher level of competition, she believes, has helped sharpen the Marlins' edge.

Next season, the team will lose Tucker Chinn to year-round competition, making

him ineligible for the summer state meet. Reflecting on the end of his time with the Marlins, Chinn said finishing his career with three records and a team title was exactly how he hoped to go out.

"My goal was to leave with a bang that will be remembered, and that's exactly what I did," he said. "I love this team and am so happy we were able to pull off a five-peat, even after moving up to a me-

dium-size team. I'm not yet sure what the future of my swimming career holds, but nonetheless, I am filled with anticipation for what's to come and will always have a special spot in my heart for this team."

With five straight titles behind them and a new generation of swimmers rising through the ranks, the Meeker Marlins are proving that their success is no fluke.

As Rogers put it, "We're not done yet."

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# Library board discusses finances, policy and parental access to library accounts

By **JARED HENDERSON**  
jared@ht1885.com

**MEEKER** | The Meeker Regional Library District held its regular monthly board meeting for July last week in the community room at the Meeker Public Library.

Board President John Moffitt, Vice President Keri Grieser, Secretary/Treasurer Toby Leavitt, and member Dan Olson attended the meeting in person, while board member Michael Cobb joined via Zoom. The board opened the meeting by approving the agenda as presented.

During the public comment period, community member Peggy Strate addressed the board with concerns about the direction of recent policy discussions.

“Some of the board feels like the library is such a dangerous place,” Strate said. “As a retired teacher and teacher for many years, there’s no place I’d rather have my students and someone hanging out than the

library.”

Strate referenced earlier remarks made by Cobb regarding the legal status of guardians accompanying children to the library.

“My granddaughter is 15. She brings her seven-year-old that she takes care of to the library weekly. That would not be a possibility. I mean, it’s not a dangerous place — it’s a place where people learn, where people improve themselves, and a place where kids can keep reading themselves. I condemn the fact that it is looked at as such a negative, dangerous place,” she said.

With no further public comment, the board moved on to approve the minutes from the June meeting. No changes were made, and the minutes were approved as presented.

In the financial report, the board noted year-to-date funds of \$35,000. Some variances in the budget were highlighted, particularly in part-time wages and payroll expenses. Moffitt raised

concerns about a \$5,100 figure in the payroll line item, noting that while they had budgeted \$50,000, only \$17,000 had been spent so far.

“I don’t think the budget is bad,” Leavitt responded. She explained the difficulty in answering financial questions in real time, saying, “I think moving forward [we’ll be] better reporting-wise. But in asking questions in the meeting, it’s hard for us to answer accurately because we can’t log into QuickBooks and get details, which is what some of the questions are requiring.”

Leavitt recommended that board members email her financial questions ahead of time to allow for more detailed responses and proposed improving reporting processes going forward. After clarifications were addressed, the board accepted the financial report.

Library Director Kristina Selby reported that circulation was up in June and around 10 new cards were issued. Up-

coming events include a monthly teen program, a winter reading challenge, preschool outreach, and planning for the annual Halloween craft series.

Selby also shared that she and staff member Ellie attended the American Library Association (ALA) conference, highlighting a panel on emotional intelligence in leadership.

Facility updates included plans for radon testing, resealing the parking area, and refinishing the courtyard deck. The board is considering whether to use wood or composite materials for the deck platforms.

Later in the meeting, under new business, the board discussed the Children and Parents Policy. Board member Dan Olson asked about the age requirement for children to receive their own library cards.

The board’s attorney, Glory Schmidt, who attended the meeting online, clarified the policy after consulting with Director Selby.

“Children over the age of 14 can get their own library cards without their parents’ permission,” Schmidt said.

She noted that the age requirement had initially been written differently, but Selby corrected it.

“Children 14 and up can do that all by themselves so their parents won’t come to the library and learn about all the options they have to manage the content, because kids at 14 and up can just get their own library cards on their own without permission,” Schmidt said.

Olson raised a concern based on a community member’s comment.

“They were denied access to their child’s information — specifically, they were trying to figure out which books were accruing late fees. They were denied access to that information based on the privacy piece of it,” Olson said.

He referenced Colorado law, specifically section 24-90-119, which states that parents have rights to access records for their minors.

“As far as minors in Colorado, that would be anyone under the age of 18. I guess my question would be: do we have the right, if the parents have assisted the child in opening up that account, to then deny them access to it if they are under the age of 18?” Olson asked.

In response, Selby explained the legal expectations regarding privacy.

“Anybody who has a card has privacy rights. If a parent would like to look at their child’s card — what is on their account — they have to have the card or the card number, and then they’re absolutely able to get online or ask us what is on that account,” Selby said.

Olson responded by explaining what he wanted clarified in the Children and Parents Policy.

“I want to make sure that our policy does not in any way violate parents’ rights under this exemption to be able to access that, and then to also understand what the process would be. If it’s decided Colorado-wide that the kids can come in and start their own card and then they have free access and complete privacy, that’s one thing,” Olson said.

He emphasized the need to make clear where parental oversight begins and ends. Selby explained how the policy is communicated during card issuance.

“When we issue cards, they are told you cannot get access as parents because library law states the parent has to have the card or number. That’s the only way they can get on to have somebody to get access to what they got on that account,” Selby said.

“We have to follow that privacy law that’s expected. It’s not saying if you’re a parent you can’t see what’s on that card — but it’s saying that if they have the card or the number, then you can look them up on their own to see what is on their account,” Selby continued.

Olson reiterated his desire for the policy to be more clearly defined.

“If that’s adding some

additional information into this or even changing that age to 18 years old, then you can work through it with the staff, as far as when are they going to have access if they have access to the card,” he said.

Schmidt referred to a line in the policy that states, “Parents and guardians of children 13 years of age or younger approve or validate their children’s use of a library card account.” She noted that this could remain, but the second reference to the age of 13 in the same paragraph might be removed.

“We can either get rid of that sentence completely — that the library will maintain access options that parents and guardians can view, can use to manage library content for children 13 years of age or younger — or I think that we could just get rid of that sentence, because then you do have that pursuant to section 24-90-119, parents and guardians have the right to access their child’s library record. I think we could get rid of that second reference to 13 years of age or younger,” Schmidt said.

Following further discussion, the board agreed to strike the second reference in the statement and move forward with the policy.

Toward the end of the meeting, the board entered executive session to receive legal advice regarding the District’s services agreement with COLOCPA Services P.C. for district accounting, pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b).

After the session, the board reconvened and voted to terminate its contract with the library’s current certified public accountant. They approved a motion to hire the accounting firm CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA).

The board agreed not to hold a work session in August. Future work sessions were scheduled for Sept. 23, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and Oct. 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting is set for Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 5:30 p.m. in the community room at the Meeker Public Library. The meeting adjourned following scheduling confirmations.

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# Hydro plant at Kenney Reservoir still under repair

Special to the HT

**RANGELY** | The main topic of the most recent Rio Blanco Water Conservancy meeting was news that despite the recent \$2.5 Million repair, the Hydro power unit is not in operation yet. Originally, the hydraulics seized due to solids in the oil, all the oil has been flushed and replaced and the hydraulics are in working order. Currently they are working on the part known as the face seal. It is being refurbished in California and will be delivered and installed asap. Once the face seal is installed then RBWCD will finalize wet

testing to verify that it is properly functioning before going fully online with it.

The issue was discovered while the hydro power unit was running during the initial wet testing. They ran the hydro for approximately 12 hours over a couple of days. At this time is when the stuck face seal was discovered. It appears that this part may have been faulty for several years and it is the belief of the contractor, engineer and RBWCD Staff that this fix will help remedy these persistent issues the hydro has been having.

CPW and RBWCD is working on education and prevention for the zebra

mussels at Kenney Reservoir. The lake has seen an increase of use due to closures of other lakes in the area due to mussels, capacity restrictions and construction.

The District continues to solicit responses to their Irrigation Study and Recreation Study and intend on using the results to support in NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act) for the Wolf Creek mega reservoir project. According to Executive Director Alden Vanden Brink, they are having better than expected participation. The next survey will be a Rangely Water Needs assessment.

## SPARKLES AT THE FAIR



Charlie Rowlett leads her lamb, Sparkles, in the sheep lead competition at this year's Rio Blanco County Fair, joining several other contestants who showcased their style and showmanship in the annual event. We will have additional photos and results from the fair in an upcoming edition.

JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

# EXCITING NEWS!

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## Meeker Streaker Contact Information



If you need to reach the Meeker Streaker

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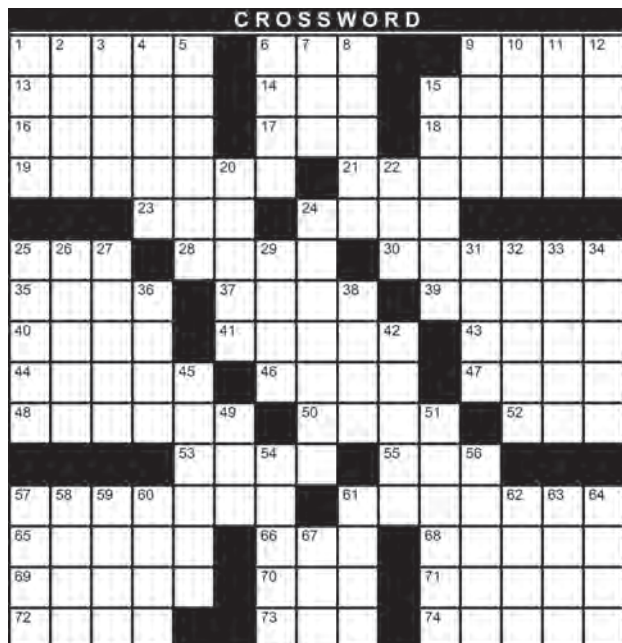
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Meeker, CO 81641

# PUZZLES



THEME: WORKING OUT

**ACROSS**

- 1. Oven emanation
- 6. Beast of burden
- 9. Slat
- 13. Chocolate substitute
- 14. \_\_\_\_\_ carte
- 15. San Diego baseballer
- 16. Actress Linda of "Dynasty" fame
- 17. Grave acronym
- 18. Dartmouth and such
- 19. "Largest shoulder muscle"
- 21. "Mind-body exercise with "apparatus"
- 23. To do this is human
- 24. Hold back or restrain
- 25. "Biathlon gear, sing.
- 28. Rum follower
- 30. Illuminated by a certain star
- 35. Windshield option
- 37. Gang's domain

- 39. Symbolized by white dove
- 40. Wander
- 41. "Sesame Street" regular
- 43. a.k.a. amir
- 44. Nobel Prize, e.g.
- 46. Most luminous star
- 47. 0.001 inches, pl.
- 48. \*Workout prep
- 50. Used to be
- 52. Sailor's assent
- 53. Agitate
- 55. Carry a load
- 57. \*Series of exercises with little or no rest
- 61. \*Peloton sport
- 65. "Bite the bullet," e.g.
- 66. E in BCE
- 68. Term of endearment
- 69. "He \_\_\_\_\_ it like it is"
- 70. Actress Ryan
- 71. "M\*A\*S\*H" character
- 72. One of #18 Across
- 73. 007

74. What actors do

**DOWN**

- 1. Passed with flying colors
- 2. Five-star review
- 3. Not written
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ Carlo
- 5. Soak up
- 6. 36 inches
- 7. Boxer Clay
- 8. Fraternity K
- 9. Surface magma
- 10. Passage into a mine
- 11. \*Arboreal" yoga pose
- 12. Hitler's sidekick Rudolf \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Highway accident
- 20. Extremely angry
- 22. "\_\_\_\_\_ show time!"
- 24. Nocturnal bird of prey (2 words)
- 25. It broke the camel's back
- 26. Plains tribe
- 27. Iron + nickel

- 29. \*Use calories
- 31. a.k.a. Indian Liac
- 32. Vampire of Greek mythology
- 33. In a cold manner
- 34. To the point
- 36. Four years for a President
- 38. V
- 42. Premature
- 45. \_\_\_\_\_ semolina, pl.
- 49. Hawaiian dish
- 51. Trick-taking card game
- 54. List components
- 56. Twilight
- 57. C in NYC
- 58. Brain wave
- 59. Small brook
- 60. Nat of Jazz
- 61. Same as cagey
- 62. \_\_\_\_\_ European language
- 63. Like a drink in a snifter
- 64. Swirling vortex
- 67. \*One in a set

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# DAYS GONE BY

## MEEKER HERALD ~ 125 YEARS AGO

The man who believes that he benefits himself by taxing himself poor to make others rich is not in a good position to poke fun at those who believe in the faith cure.

About the heaviest rain ever seen in this section visited Meeker and vicinity Wednesday afternoon. It poured and soon our streets were running rivers, and to add to the volume of running water the town ditch overflowed its banks at several points. Cellars and the ground floors of several houses were flooded.

## MEEKER HERALD ~ 100 YEARS AGO

The weather this week was a repetition of last week's — that is bright sunny

days and cool nights. On Wednesday afternoon a high wind from the north blew up and stirred up considerable dust. Such a wind on the plains with no mountains to interrupt it would probably develop into a cyclone.

Marland Oil company of Ponca City may be the cause of a new resort starting in Colorado. The company's test for oil on the Meeker dome in Rio Blanco county, Colorado, near the town of Meeker, which it had been planned to abandon on account of difficulties arising out of the encountering of an enormous flow of warm sulphur water, may not be abandoned. Negotiations are completed between the company and the County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County

for the purchase of the 10-inch casing in the hole with the privilege of using the water for a large and modern swimming pool. The county commissioners believe the establishment of a resort highly feasible.

## MEEKER HERALD ~ 75 YEARS AGO

The Meeker Fire Department was called out Wednesday afternoon and took the rural fire fighting truck to Little Beaver. There was a brush fire on the old Winslow ranch that threatened to get out of hand. The fire did no damage, but the firemen stood by to lend a hand if it did.

Contractors on Meeker-Rangely Highway making good progress.

A lot of people who

wouldn't talk with full mouths will go around talking with empty heads.

## MEEKER HERALD ~ 50 YEARS AGO

Construction work began last week on the remodeling and two-story addition to the Colescott Agency building immediately to the south of the Post Office in Meeker. The architect/designer is Rene G. Chouzenoux of Denver who is a personal friend of Jack Riegel, owner of the building. Holzberlein Ruckman are the general contractors for the building.

The Mature Meekerites will meet for their monthly potluck lunch next Tuesday at City Park.

## MEEKER HERALD ~ 25

## YEARS AGO

Around 75 interested citizens attended the county commissioner candidate forum Monday in Rangely to discuss the coming proposed railroad and other items. A question concerning the scope and quality of medical care in the county and the difference between Meeker and Rangely had all candidates in agreement the Rangely facilities were in line for upgrading.

From a subscriber: "You would sell more papers if you would go back to the way the paper was years ago and leave Rangely out. Many local people as well as others are complaining.

## RANGELY TIMES ~ 50 YEARS AGO

The truth of the oft quoted

scripture, "All things come to him who waits" (and plans and complains, and works, and gripes, and spends money, and works some more) is being realized by the Board and Administration of the Public Schools as they see the near completion of the project to renovate the entire athletic facilities over the past five and one half years.

While the oil industry clearly predominates the town of Rangely, a small manufacturing firm has existed here since 1973 — the Rocky Mountain Archery Manufacturing Company, better known as RAMCO. The two-year old corporation assembles archery bows both of the conventional and compound type with several models available.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Estate of Thomas Derek Prenzlou, A/K/A Thomas D. Prenzlou, A/K/A Thomas Prenzlou, Deceased  
Case No.: 2025PR030011  
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 December 04, 2025, or said claims may be forever barred.  
Mike Prenzlou,  
Personal Representative  
1021 Charlotte Court  
Loveland, Colorado 80537  
Published: July 31, August 7 and 14, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**  
Rangely School District  
Rio Blanco County, Colorado  
The Rangely School District in the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. At this election 3 directors will be elected representing Rangely School District for a term of office of four years and 1 director will be elected representing Rangely School District for a term of office of two years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election (and a resident of the director

district which will be represented). A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child. A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 25 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election. Nomination petitions may be obtained at the Rangely School District Administration Building, 402 W Main St, Rangely, Colorado 81648. Office hours are 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday. Completed petitions shall be submitted to Teresa Gilbert no later than 1:00 p.m. on August 29, 2025. Published: August 7, 14 and 21, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

c) Accounts Payable Management Reports for June 2025.  
d) Meeting Minutes for June 24, 2025.  
e) Motor Vehicle DMV Report for June 2025.  
f) DHS EBT Register and Warrant Register for June 2025.  
III. Business:  
a) Consideration of approving the Representation Letter – Applying Agreed-upon Procedures, from Blair and Associates, P.C. for Solid Waste Landfill. - Being Sent from Paul Miller  
b) Consideration of approving the Rio Blanco County Management Representation Letter, from Blair and Associates, P.C. for Solid Waste Landfill. – Being sent from Paul Miller  
c) Decision of Grant funding for 2026.  
d) Consideration of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.  
e) Consideration of a permission letter for the Meeker Lions Club to serve alcohol on Rio Blanco County property, for the following dates, times, and events:  
i) Meeker Mustang Make-over – Friday Banquet, Friday August 22, 2025 from 4:00pm – 11:00pm at the RBC Fairgrounds 4-H Building, 700 Sulfur Creek Rd., Meeker, CO 81641.  
ii) Meeker Mustang Make-over – Main show and auction, Friday August 22, 2025 from 10:00am – 10:00pm at the RBC Fairgrounds Grandstands and Arena, 700 Sulfur Creek Rd., Meeker, CO 81641.  
iii) Meeker Mustang Make-over – Main show and auction, Saturday August 23, 2025 from 10:00am – 10:00pm at the RBC Fairgrounds Grandstands and Arena, 700 Sulfur Creek Rd., Meeker, CO 81641.  
iv) Meeker Classic Jammin' Lamb BBQ, Saturday September 6, 2025, 2:00pm-10:00pm, RBC Fairgrounds 4-H Building, 700 Sulfur Creek Rd., Meeker, CO 81641.  
f) Consideration of the Treasurers' Semi-Annual report.  
g) Consideration of approving the dissolution of Precinct 5.  
h) Consideration and approval of the 2025 RBC EEO Meeker Airport Coulter Field Winter Maintenance Policy and Procedure.  
i) Consideration of executing the Bureau of Land Management Request for Relinquishment of Grant COC-19633 - Communication Site Lobo.  
j) Consideration of approval for the Right-of-Way and Easement Agreements with Atmos Energy Corporation for natural gas line supply at Rio Blanco County Meeker Airport (Coulter Field).  
k) Consideration of and approval of Grant for Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Project No. 3-08-0041-018-2025 Meeker Airport GA Ramp Reconstruction Project.  
l) Consideration of and approval of FAA Grant Offer for Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) Project No. 3-08-0041-017-2025 for Meeker Airport GA Ramp Reconstruction Project.  
m) Consideration of executing the 2025 RBC Meeker Airport GA Ramp Reconstruction Project 00 51 00 Notice of Award Elevated Excavating, Inc.  
n) Consideration of the CDPHE Contract Amendment #2 for Contract 2025\*0141 for Public Health's Public Health Emergency Preparedness PHEP program.  
o) Consideration of approving the fifth amendment to the AAA grant award #26-11-16 for the White River Roundup program, in the amount of \$77,860.00.  
p) Ratification of a letter of support for the Wild Horse Gather.  
q) Ratification of a Comments letter to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, regarding the draft State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP).  
r) Consideration of contract modification #1 to White River National Forest agreement 24-PA-11021500-045, Rio Blanco – noxious weeds treatment and control partnership.  
IV. Resolutions:  
a) Resolution 2025-22, a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado, authorizing the Treasurer to assign County-held lien on a Real Property Account.  
V. Public Hearing:  
VI. Recess as the Board of County Commissioners and Convene as the Board of Social Services.  
a) Report from Carmen McKay with the Department of Human Services. Allotted 30 minutes.  
b) Discuss the reestablishment of the Child Protection Team.  
VII. Adjourn as the Board of Social Services.  
VIII. Convene as the Board of Health  
a) Presentation on retail food in RBC – Troy Huffman, CDPHE Retail Food Safety Manager.  
IX. Adjourn as the Board of Health and Reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners  
X. Other Business  
a) Road and Bridge update  
b) County Attorney update  
c) County Administrator update  
d) County Commissioners updates  
XI. Adjourn.  
The agenda is provided for informational purposes only; all times are approximate. Agenda items will normally be considered in the order they appear on the agenda. However, the Board may alter the Agenda, take breaks during the meeting, work

through the noon hour and even continue an item for a future meeting date. The Board, while in session, may consider other items that are brought before it. Scheduled items may be continued if the Board is unable to complete the Agenda as scheduled.  
The next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 9, 2025, at the Rio Blanco County Historic Courthouse, 3rd Floor Hearing Room, 555 Main St, Meeker, CO 81641. If you need special accommodations, please call 970-878-9575 in advance of the meeting so that reasonable accommodations may be made. Published: August 7, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**TOWN OF RANGELY AGENDA**  
August 12, 2025 - 7:00pm Town of Rangely Council Chambers  
Rangely Board of Trustees (Town Council)  
1. Call to Order  
2. Roll Call  
3. Invocation  
4. Pledge of Allegiance  
5. Minutes of Meeting  
a. Discussion and Action to approve the Town Council minutes of July 22nd, 2025.  
6. Petitions and Public Input  
7. Changes to the Agenda  
8. Public Hearings - 7:10pm  
9. Town Manager Update  
Council Reports  
11. Supervisor Reports  
12. Old Business  
13. New Business  
a. Discussion and action to approve the July 2025 Check Register  
b. Discussion and action to approve the Special Event Permit for the Elks BPOE Lodge 1907 for Butch Cassidy Days on August 22 nd and 23 rd , 2025, at RBC Columbine Park from 12pm-11:59pm.  
c. Discussion and action to approve the MOU between Rangely School District and the Rangely Police Department for the School Resource Officer for Academic year 2025-2026.  
d. Discussion and action to approve donation to Rangely 4H members for "Add-Ons" in the amount of \$25 per member (42) a total of \$1,050.00.  
Informational Items  
a. Pitch Competition Classes – August 8-9, 2025  
b. Butch Cassidy Days – August 22-24, 2025  
c. Septemberfest – August 30 – September 1, 2025  
Board Vacancies  
16. Scheduled Announcements  
a. Rio Blanco County Commissioners Board meeting is scheduled for August 12th, 2025, at 11:00 am in Meeker  
b. RDA/RDC Board meeting is scheduled for August 14th, 2025, at 7:30 am  
c. Giant Step Preschool Board meeting is scheduled for August 14th, 2025, at 6:00 pm  
d. Community Outreach meeting is cancelled for August 2025  
e. Rangely School District Board meeting is scheduled for August 19th, 2025, at 6:15 pm  
f. Rangely Junior College District Board meeting is scheduled for August 19th, 2025, at 12:00 noon  
g. Rangely Chamber of Commerce Board meeting is scheduled for July 17th, 2025, at 12:30 noon  
h. Rangely District Library Board meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2025, at 5:00 pm  
i. WRB Park & Recreation District Board meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2025, at 6:00 pm  
j. Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2025, at 7:00 pm  
k. Rio Blanco County Commissioners Board meeting is scheduled for August 26th, 2025, at 9:00 am in Rangely  
l. Rangely District Hospital Board meeting is scheduled for August 27th, 2025, at 6:00 pm  
m. RBC Water Conservancy District Budget Work session is scheduled for August 28th, 2025, at 6:30 pm  
17. Adjournment  
Published: August 7, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

school election. Nomination petitions may be obtained at the Meeker School District Administration Office, 555 Garfield, Meeker, Colorado. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Completed petitions shall be submitted to Jessica Browning/Meredith Deming, the School District's designated election officials no later than 4:00 p.m. on August 29, 2025. Published: August 7, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## SECTION 00100 ADVERTISEMENTS FOR BID

Sealed BIDS for rehabilitation of the interior of the Town of Rangely Middle Zone Potable Water Tank will be received by the Town of Rangely at Town Hall, 209 E. Main Street, Rangely, Colorado, 81648, until 1:00 pm, Friday, August 15, 2025, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The project generally consists of furnishing all materials, equipment and labor necessary to perform existing interior coating removal; performing magnetic flux leakage scan; floor plate, wall and ceiling repairs, full interior surface preparation and installing NSF- approved interior coatings for an at grade, welded steel, 1 M Gallon potable water storage tank. Bid alternates are provided for abating lead based paint if needed, and exterior preparation and recoating. The tank is ~84 feet in diameter by 24 feet tall. The Owner will hire third-party coating and weld inspectors.  
A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at 11:00am, Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at the Town of Rangely Town Hall. A site visit to the Tank will follow. All questions pertaining to the project shall be directed to Jocelyn Mullen, PE through email at jmullen@rangelyco.gov no later than August 11, 2025 at 3pm.  
Successful bidder must have at least 10 years of experience coating similar size and material tanks, including performing lead abatement, and provide General Liability insurance of \$1,000,000 each occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate, Umbrella Liability insurance of \$1,000,000 each occurrence, \$1,000,000 aggregate, and Workers Compensation of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000/\$1,000,000. Please provide a partial portfolio with sealed bid, demonstrating requisite experience.  
Interior video, pictures, diving report and a Project Manual with specifications will be furnished to potential bidders electronically. Documents are also available for reviewing at Town Hall.  
This project is being funded by the Town of Rangely Water Enterprise Fund and the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Energy/ Mineral Impact Assistance Grant Funding.  
Published: August 7, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## TOWN OF MEEKER NOTICE OF FINAL CONTRACTOR SETTLEMENT

**GARFIELD STREET WATER LINE**  
Notice is hereby given that on August 19, 2025 at 7:00 P.M., during the regular Board of Trustees meeting at the Meeker Town Hall, 345 Market Street, Meeker, Colorado, final settlement will be made to CRC, Inc. for the Garfield Street Water Line project. Any person, co-partnership, company, association of persons, or corporation who has an unpaid claim with the company listed above, as a project subcontractor or project partner, or for labor and materials, or reimbursement for related expenses, may file a verified statement, at any time, up to final settlement, of the amount due with the Town, pursuant to Section 38-26-107, C.R.S., as amended. Failure on the part of any Claimant to file such verified statement with the Town Board, prior to the final settlement on said contract, will relieve the Town of Meeker from any liability for such Claimant's claim. More information is available at (970)878-5344 or at Town Hall, 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO 81641.  
Published: August 7 and 14, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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Published: August 7 and 14, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The White River National Forest will no longer be publishing public notice of currently advertised timber sales in this newspaper. In an effort to modernize our business practices, make notices available more widely and spend responsibly we will be publishing current timber sale advertisements and bidding documents to our public facing website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/whiteriver/forest-products/timber-sales>. A nationwide list of currently advertised Forest Service Timber Sales can also be found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/forest-management/products/timber-sales> with information and links on where to obtain additional info. If you, as a prospective bidder, would like to be added to our prospective bidder list as a convenience in addition to the public notice please contact Tim Kerrigan, timothy.kerrigan@usda.gov (970) 295-6761, or Lisa Leinen Elizabeth.leinen@usda.gov (970) 295-6683. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.  
Published: August 7, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## COMBINED NOTICE - MAILING CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 25-05

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
On May 21, 2025, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Rio Blanco records.  
Original Grantor(s)  
STEPHANIE SUSAN HENSON  
Original Beneficiary(ies)  
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR HIGHLANDS RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE, LTD, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS  
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt  
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC  
Date of Deed of Trust  
2/29/2012  
County of Recording  
Rio Blanco  
Recording Date of Deed of Trust  
February 29, 2012  
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)  
303292  
Original Principal Amount  
\$72,488.00  
Outstanding Principal Balance  
\$63,474.88  
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.  
**THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**SUBLOT NO. 3 RANGELY TOWNHOUSES NO. 1 ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED SEPTEMBER 8, 1977 AS RECEPTION NO. 176834 TOWN OF RANGELY, COLORADO**  
**Purported common address: 140 DARIUS AVE, RANGELY, CO 81648.**  
**THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.**

## NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 09/17/2025, at Office of the Public Trustee, Rio Blanco County Courthouse, 555 Main Street, Meeker CO 81641, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 7/24/2025  
Last Publication 8/21/2025  
Name of Publication Rio Blanco Herald Times  
**NOTICE OF RIGHTS**  
**YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF SAID STATUTES, AS SUCH STATUTES ARE PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS SHALL BE SENT WITH ALL MAILED COPIES OF THIS NOTICE. HOWEVER, YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE DETERMINED BY PREVIOUS STATUTES.**  
**● A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-104 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED;**  
**● A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-302 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE;**  
**● IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;**  
**● IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.**  
**Colorado Attorney General**  
**1300 Broadway, 10th Floor**  
**Denver, Colorado 80203**  
**(800) 222-4444**  
**www.coag.gov**  
**Consumer Financial Protection Bureau**  
**PO Box 27170**  
**Washington, DC 20038**  
**(855) 411-2372**  
**www.consumerfinance.gov**  
DATE: 05/21/2025  
Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado  
By: Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee  
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:  
Holly Shilliday #24423  
Ilene Dell'Acqua #31755  
Steven Bellanti #48306  
McCarthy & Holthus, LLP 7700 E Arapahoe Road, Suite 230, Centennial, CO 80112 (877) 369-6122  
Attorney File # CO-25-1014520  
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015  
Published July 24, 31 and Aug. 7, 14, 21  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1 BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION

555 Garfield Street  
Meeker, CO 81641  
August 11, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.  
Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/fns-uaaq-sgc>  
Work Session:  
1. August 2025 BOE Meeting - Moved to August 18, 2025  
2. Policy Discussion - 20250818 Policy Update - Recommended by CASB  
3. FY25 Budget Review (Policy Group DB)  
a. FY25 Budget vs. Actual  
b. Deficit Spending Projections - Updated  
4. 2025 BOE Election (Policy BBBA)  
5. Healthy Meals for All Program (Policies EF and EFC)  
6. Capital Projects (Policy FB and FB-R)  
7. School Safety (Policy Group ADD)  
a. MSD Emergency Operations Plan  
b. Reporting methods  
8. School Resource Officer partnership with the Town of Meeker (Policies DB and ADD)  
9. School Board Best Practices (Policy BBA)  
Meeker BOE self evaluation form  
BOE discussion/training topics  
10. Community Survey Action Plan (Policy KCB & ADA)  
Published: August 7, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## NOTICE OF UPCOMING ELECTION/ CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

On Tuesday, November 7, 2025, the Rangely Junior College District election will be held where there will be three seats open on the Board of Trustees. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes will each serve four-year terms. Anyone interested in running for these seats must be a registered voter and reside within the Rangely Junior College District. In addition, it is necessary to submit a notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 25 registered voters residing in the College District.  
The first day to circulate nomination petitions is August 6, 2025. The above-mentioned forms may be obtained from Linda Gordon, 215 Hillcrest Avenue, Rangely CO, 970-629-1116.  
The petition must be completed and returned no later than Friday, August 29, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. To obtain an absentee ballot, please contact the Rio Blanco County Clerk and Recorder's office. Published: August 7, 14 and 21, 2025  
Rio Blanco Herald Times

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO

555 Main Street, 3rd Floor Commissioner's Hearing Room, Meeker, Colorado 81641  
Meeting Agenda  
August 12, 2025  
This meeting will be streamed live on the RBC YouTube Channel at: <http://youtube.com/c/RioBlancoCountyColorado>  
I. Call to Order 11:00 AM.  
a) Pledge of Allegiance.  
b) Public Comment Period: Any member of the public may address the Board on matters which are within the jurisdiction of the Board. If you are addressing the Board regarding a matter listed on the Agenda, you are requested to limit your comments to three minutes per member or five minutes per group. The public comment time is not for questions and answers. It is your time to express your views. To ensure there is adequate public comment time, please provide your name, contact information, and any affiliation prior to the meeting by contacting the Board assistant at (970) 878-9575. If you would like to submit written comment please contact the Board assistant. If any member of the public would like to comment at this time, please state your name, contact information and any affiliation for the record.  
c) This is a tentative agenda which includes all information available as of August 4, 2025. The final tentative agenda will be posted at the RBC Historic Courthouse, 555 Main St., Meeker, CO, and at the Rangely Town Hall, 209 E. Main St., Rangely.  
d) Consideration of the approval of the July 8, 2025 Agenda including any changes.  
II. Consent Items:  
a) Move to Approve the Below Listed Items of the Consent Agenda.  
b) Payroll Management Report for July 4, 2025.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**HELP WANTED**

**TOWN OF MEEKER  
SEEKING UTILITYMAN EMPLOYEE**  
The Town of Meeker is accepting applications for the position of Utilityman. This is a full-time position with on-call hours. Duties include general maintenance of all related systems that the town is charged with operating, including streets and bridges, water system, snow removal, weed control, operating heavy equipment and other duties as assigned. The employee must obtain a Class B CDL driver's license within 6 months of employment date and obtain a Class D water license within 12 months. Non-exempt position \$22 to \$25 per hour DOQ with an excellent benefit package.

Applications are available at [www.townofmeeker.org/job-opportunities](http://www.townofmeeker.org/job-opportunities) and at Town Hall, 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO. For more information call 878-5344. EEO.

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



Complete an application online by scanning the code or by navigating to [pioneershospital.org](http://pioneershospital.org)

**HELP WANTED**

**RIO BLANCO BOCES**  
**Employment Opportunity**  
The Rio Blanco BOCES is currently seeking a part-time  
**Gifted and Talented Coordinator**  
to work in the Meeker School District for the 2025-26 school year.

Qualifications/Education: B. Ed. (or BA) in Education (or other area)  
License: Colorado Department of Education Professional Teacher License Requirements  
Work Schedule: 54 days (36 weeks, 12 hours/week)

For more information, please contact Brad Bauer at 970-878-9040 ext. 134 or 970-620-5979. To apply, go to [www.rioblancoboces.org](http://www.rioblancoboces.org)-Employment Opportunities>Certified Application. Submit certified application/cover letter, transcripts and letters of recommendation to [brad.bauer@meeker.k12.co.us](mailto:brad.bauer@meeker.k12.co.us) and [jessica.fortunato@rangelyk12.org](mailto:jessica.fortunato@rangelyk12.org).

This vacancy is open until filled.

Visit our website for vacancy details & application process:  
[www.rioblancoboces.org/page/employment](http://www.rioblancoboces.org/page/employment)

**HELP WANTED**

**MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**  
**Employment Opportunities**

**Meeker High School**  
• MHS Assistant Softball Coach  
Position will remain open until filled.

**Barone Middle School**  
• 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach  
• 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach  
Positions will remain open until filled.

**District**  
• Food Service - Cook  
Open until August 14th, 2025 at 4:00pm

Visit our website for vacancy details & application process:  
[meeker.k12.co.us](http://meeker.k12.co.us)

ADA/EOE. Subject to change at any time!  
Meeker School District Administration  
555 Garfield St., Meeker, CO  
**970-878-9040**

**HELP WANTED**

**RIO BLANCO COUNTY**  
**Employment Opportunities**  
• Caseworker - \$21.02-\$30.44/hr, B  
• Case Aide I \$18.86-\$22.96/hr, B  
• Patrol Deputy - \$2,349-\$2,468/biweekly, \$5,000 bonus, B  
• Road & Bridge Operator- Mkr-\$22.85-30.18/hr, B  
• Road & Bridge Laborer- Mkr-\$21.74/hr NB  
• Relief Cook - Meeker - \$19.20/hr, NB  
• Budget and Finance Director - \$94,919-\$127,000/yr, B  
• Accountant II - \$30-\$38/hr, B  
B-benefitted: Medical, dental, vision and life insurance, paid time off, retirement  
PB-pro-rated benefits  
NB-COlorado sick leave accruals only

Please visit [www.rbc.us](http://www.rbc.us) or  
**Rio Blanco County Human Resources at 555 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Meeker, CO. 970-878-9570**  
ADA/EOE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Bingo Night!** Join us on the last Saturday of the month for Bingo, hosted by the Rio Blanco County Historical Society. Doors open at 6 p.m. \$1 per sheet or \$5 for 6 sheets. Heritage Culture Center - 517 Park.

**ELDER CARE**

★★★★★  
Western Slope In-Home Care  
[www.westernslopehomecare.com](http://www.westernslopehomecare.com)  
970-878-7008

**RENTALS: MEEKER**

Commercial space for rent in Meeker, 685 Main St. Call for more info. 970-220-2031

#31 Large 1BDR/1BA apartment and #30 1BDR/1BA apartment available at 908 Market St. To view call 970-220-2150. Apply at [gicmhp@gmail.com](mailto:gicmhp@gmail.com).

For rent: Office space available July 1 at 640 Main St. in Meeker. Call 970-878-3433 or 970-683-8133.

2 bedroom, 1 bath ground floor condominium available for rent. White River Condominiums, 680 Water Street, Meeker. Laundry facilities, off-street parking. No smoking, no pets. One year lease \$1,100/month rent. Tenant pays electricity. Call Karen 970-878-3189 or 970-693-8250 for appointment.

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."  
Philippians 2:3-4  
Five Legged Stool, LLC

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Rio Blanco County Veterans Services**  
Meeker: POB 599, County Administration Bldg. Wednesday 1300 - 1500  
Rangely: 17497 Hwy. 64, County Shop. Thursday 1300 - 1500.  
(Also, by appointment)  
County Veteran Service Officer:  
Joe Dungan  
(970) 878-9690

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

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
Meetings in Meeker M-W-F at 7 p.m. Downstairs at Richards' Hall - St. James Episcopal Church - 368 4th St.

**YARD SALES**

820 3rd St. (MEEKER) in the backyard. Aug. 8 12-5 p.m., Aug. 9, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fire permitting.

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

A	R	O	M	A	Y	A	K	L	A	T
C	A	R	O	B	A	L	A	P	A	D
E	V	A	N	S	R	I	P	I	V	I
D	E	L	T	O	I	D	P	I	L	A
E	R	R	B	A	T	E				
S	K	I	B	A	B	A	S	U	N	L
T	I	N	T	T	U	R	F	P	E	A
R	O	V	E	E	R	N	I	E	E	M
A	W	A	R	D	N	O	V	A	M	I
W	A	R	M	U	P	W	E	R	E	A
C	I	R	C	I	T	C	Y	C	L	I
I	D	I	O	M	E	R	A	H	O	N
T	E	L	L	S	M	E	G	R	A	D
Y	A	L	E	S	P	Y	E	M	O	T

## NOW HIRING!

- **Part-Time Daytime Lifeguard**  
Ensure the safety of patrons through pool surveillance, emergency response, and cleaning/chemical maintenance of the natatorium. Hours vary Monday-Friday, 4:45am-1:30pm. Work up to 24 hours per week. \$16-20/hr. Paid training provided.
- **Part-Time Guest Services Representative**  
Provide exemplary customer service while completing a variety of administrative and operational tasks. Nights, weekends, mornings, and occasional split shifts required. Work up to 24 hours per week. \$16-20/hour.
- **Part-Time Specialty Instructor I & II**  
Plan and implement District fitness programs on a year-round basis. Part-time position; hourly as assigned. \$20 to \$28.35/hour. No certification necessary. Paid training provided!

Open until filled. EOE.  
**Apply: [erbmrec.com/careers](http://erbmrec.com/careers)**  
ERBM Recreation & Park District | 970.878.3403  
[erbmrec.com](http://erbmrec.com) | [@erbmrec](mailto:@erbmrec)

**RIO BLANCO COUNTY**  
**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](mailto:hr@rbc.us), 970-878-9570.  
The Application can be found at the [rbc.us](http://rbc.us) website under Elected Offices & Boards.  
• Fair Board

**AUCTIONS**

**RT CLAYPOOLE AUCTION SERVICE**  
**Live Estate Auction!**  
Join us Saturday, Aug. 16 at 10 a.m. for the live in-person estate auction of Brad & Kathy Talkington. Located at 675 Pershing St. in Craig, CO. Items include several antiques and collectibles, dollhouses, antique furniture, jewelry, gunsmithing tools & gun parts, power tools & hand tools, toolboxes, deer mounts, furniture, medical equipment, household items and much more! Preview starts Friday, Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. Check our website for pictures and descriptions:  
[rtclaypoleauction.com](http://rtclaypoleauction.com)  
Call Tanner w/ questions: 970-756-9353

**Classifieds start at just \$5/week!**

Call 970.878.4017 or email [ads@ht1885.com](mailto:ads@ht1885.com) to get started.



**Colorado Classified Advertising Statewide Network**

To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado Newspapers for only \$300, contact your local Newspaper or email [rtledo@colopress.net](mailto:rtledo@colopress.net)

<b>CAREGIVER NEEDED</b> CAREGIVER NEEDED - job is for 5 Days a Week - 5 Hours per Day - Salary is \$40 per Hour. For more details about the position, email me <a href="mailto:mikeherr411@gmail.com">mikeherr411@gmail.com</a>	<b>Inogen</b> Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call: 844-823-0293
<b>DISH Satellite</b> Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards, Call Today! 1-855-720-8701	<b>COLORADO PRESS NETWORK</b> To Place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado Newspapers for \$300 Contact your local Newspaper or email <a href="mailto:rtledo@colopress.net">rtledo@colopress.net</a>

# REAL ESTATE CORNER

**ACREAGE VIEWS WELL-NICE HOME LARGE BARN HORSE PROPERTY**

**REDUCED! \$580,000**

Beautiful sunrises, sunsets and 360-degree views await you as the new owner of Ponderosa Pass Ranch located in history and recreation rich Northwest Colorado. The ranch affords you year-round access with county maintained roads. This 35.06 acre horse property boasts a well cared for 3 BDR, 2 BTH home with an open floor plan, a wraparound composite deck for relaxing with a cup of coffee and taking in the views and wildlife of elk, mule deer or pronghorn which frequent the property. The southern exposure windows supply added views from the living, dining and kitchen areas. A bonus room downstairs has a pellet stove for that extra bit of added warmth on those chilly mornings and evenings. The oversized 2-car garage sits beside the house with a breeze way in between and the fenced yard is completely landscaped. The domestic well supplies water to the house, yard and livestock and has a backup city water cistern. Your horses will have plenty of room to roam and graze inside the well-maintained fenced property which is complete with a shed and corrals. The large 3600 sq ft metal barn has electricity and spacious areas for hay and equipment storage, and two insulated rooms for tack and shop area. The seller is including a Kabota tractor with two attachments in the sale of the ranch. Ponderosa Pass Ranch is located just a few short miles from the town of Craig which has grocery stores, banks, a new hospital, college and restaurants. Steamboat Springs is approx. 40 mi to the east as well as Hayden Airport which is 25 mi to the east. See this property today because your rural Northwest Colorado outdoor adventures lie ahead of you!

**Elk Canyon Realty, LLC**  
Carolyn Plumb - Owner/Broker  
Ranch | Residential | Land | Commercial  
**(970) 620-2249**  
[www.elkcanyonrealty.com](http://www.elkcanyonrealty.com) - [carolynplumb.ecr@gmail.com](mailto:carolynplumb.ecr@gmail.com)

*Celebrating 24 Years - Same office. Same Location!*

**BROOKS REALTY**  
889 Main St., Meeker, Colorado  
[brooksrealtymeeker.com](http://brooksrealtymeeker.com)  
(970)756-8772

**490 9th St.**  
Charming brick home built in 1934. 3BD/2BA, original wood trim, hardwood floors throughout. 6 ft. privacy fence. Detached 672 sq. ft. garage. 2 full lots.  
**\$485,000**

**Alpine West Properties LLC**  
Your Trusted Source for Anything and Everything Real Estate!

For Photos & Videos Scan Here

**TBD CR 15** - 39013± acre ranch w/ 3BD | 1BA | 1412 SF log home, 2 domestic wells, fenced pens/pastures, outbuildings and two ponds.....\$1,200,000  
**1509 CR 4** - 4BD | 3.25BA | 3810 SF 2-story home on 3 AC w/ domestic well, 30'x49' shop, 16'x31' loafing shed, w/ views from the mesa overlooking Meeker.....\$765,000  
**1351 La Mesa Cir, Rangely** - 5BD | 3.5BA | 6176.8 SF custom home w/ luxury finishes & views from 0.558 acres. Plus a 1976.7 SF garage w/ car lift.....\$765,000  
**65701 Hwy 64** - Enjoy river views from this single-level 3BD | 2.75BA | 2518 SF log home w/ domestic well & cistern, on 2706 acres, bordering the BLM. Reduced!.....\$560,000  
**4019 CR 4** - 3BD | 2BA | 1296 SF ranch-style home, outbuildings, domestic well, on 7 acres of ag meadow.....Under Contract  
**1135 Michael Cir** - 3BD | 2.5BA | 1743 SF 2-story home on a double lot near the park & trails. Features: A/C, pellet stove, 2-car garage, vinyl fencing, & sprinkler system. Reduced!.....\$389,000  
**950 Cleveland St.** - 3BD | 3BA | 1930 SF log home w/ vaulted ceiling & 2 rock fireplaces, on an oversized lot w/ detached garage and large backyard. Reduced!.....\$370,000  
**302 W. Main St, Rangely** - Commercially zoned, 3080 SF building w/ paved parking lot, highway frontage, great visibility, HOA managed complex w/ exterior access & 201±SF storage.....\$265,000  
**9501 County Road 10, Maybell (Greystone)** - 3BD | 2BA | 1782 SF home offered with your choice of land options (120, 80, 40, or 8.469 ± acres) & water tap.....\$275,000 - \$412,500  
**807 E. Main St, Rangely** - Commercial lot & 3168 SF shop+office space. Auto Mechanic Trade Fixtures can be purchased for \$86,000. Real estate only.....\$224,000  
**White River Condos** is a pet friendly, HOA managed complex w/ river access, community green space, an onsite laundromat & use of a private storage facility.  
**Unit 1** - 2BD | 1BA | 881 SF single level w/ 201±SF storage facility.....\$125,000  
**Unit 6** - 2BD | 1BA | 885 SF single level w/ exterior access & 201±SF storage.....\$129,500  
**Unit 9** - 2BD | 1BA | 862 SF 2-story space, w/ 101±SF storage facility.....\$125,000  
**Unit 10** - 2BD | 1BA | 859 SF 2-story space, updated flooring, & 101±SF storage.....\$119,000

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**950 Cleveland Street**  
643 Main Street, Meeker

**NEW LISTING**



**1200 FLAG CREEK DRIVE**  
**\$124,000**

**MEEKER:** Adams Lodge Outfitters: Outfitting business, camp inventory, horses, truck, trailer, and base property.....\$1,400,000  
**MEEKER:** 4000 County Road 4: 37 acres, water, 4BD/3.5BA home, shop & greenhouse.....PENDING \$1,300,000  
**SILT:** 5939 County Road 233: 10 acres, 4BD/2BA Home.....\$860,939  
**RIFLE:** 3768 County Road 237: Horse friendly 40+/- acres bordering BLM, 3BD/2BA home with outbuildings.....\$815,768  
**MEEKER:** 410 Market Street: Established restaurant, bustling location, 2BD/1BA upstairs apartment.....\$675,000  
**MEEKER:** 1085 Market Street: Commercial shop and retail space with apartment, corner lot.....\$650,000  
**MEEKER:** 6255 County Road 7: 14.87 acres, pond, well water, shop, freshly remodeled home.....PENDING \$589,000  
**MEEKER:** 1217 Main Street: Freshly updated 3BD/0.75BA, private double corner lot, abundant storage.....\$390,000  
**MEEKER:** 3915 County Road 10: 3.1 acres, well water, gorgeous views of the river and golf course.....\$393,000  
**MEEKER:** 267 6th Street: 1,450 sqft downtown commercial building, private offices, conference room, breakroom, bathrooms.....\$200,000  
**MEEKER:** 1200 Flag Creek Drive: 3.28 acres with views of the river and golf course.....\$124,000  
**MEEKER:** 1001 White River Road: Lot 1 in Ridge Estates, 3.48 acres, 1 mile to town.....\$121,000  
**MEEKER:** 1000 Flag Creek Drive: 3.32 acre lot in Ridge Estates, year round access.....\$119,000  
**MEEKER:** 851 5th Street: 7,500 SQFT vacant lot, with water tap and spectacular view.....\$49,000

970.878.7700 | [Streamline-Realty.com](http://Streamline-Realty.com) | 600 Main Street, Meeker, CO

**STREAMLINE REALTY LLC**