



Thank you, Firefighters!

The Meeker Mustang Makeover has been rescheduled for Sept. 26-27, 2025. Join us to celebrate the resilience of this community and the true Spirit of the West!
More details: meekermustangmakeover.org and @meekermustangmakeover on social

Herald Times

140

Independent Community Journalism Since 1885

Vol. 141, No. 1 • August 14, 2025 • \$1⁰⁰ • ht1885.com

FORTITUDE UNDER FIRE

Elk and Lee fires consume more than 130,000 acres of Rio Blanco County; now fifth largest wildfire in Colorado history



A residence off the west side of Highway 13 between Meeker and Rifle shows just how close the Lee Fire came and firefighters' efforts to save the structure with firelines. Operations Section Chief Tyler Nathe for the Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Team 3 said flames visible Tuesday on the Lee Fire from the highway were about 150-200 ft. high.

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

MEEKER | The Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Team 3 hosted a media briefing and tour Tuesday to provide updates on the Elk and Lee fires.

Tyler Nathe, operations section chief for the team, said the Elk Fire currently covers 14,549 acres with 75% containment (as of press time), while the Lee Fire has grown to 123,222 acres and is 4% contained (as of press time). A total of 1,234 personnel are assigned to the incident, including crews, engines, helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft, drones, and heavy equipment.

Regarding the Lee Fire, now the fifth largest wildfire in Colorado history, Nathe said, "The Lee Fire is the one that's drawing all the attention right now, it's the big smoke plume that everybody's seeing from halfway across the state. We have the corridor around the town of Meeker pretty well locked in and secured, and that was a priority for us. We're feeling really good about the threat to the town of Meeker no longer being there. We still have resources in place throughout the area to keep a presence and make sure we're not surprised by anything down the road."

The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control and the Bureau of Land Management's White River Field Office have coordinated with local agencies since the fires began, bringing in additional resources at the request of Rio Blanco County Sheriff Anthony Mazzola, who also spoke at the briefing.

"As of now we have on the Lee Fire, three residential buildings and 12 outbuildings that were lost. On the Elk Fire we had two residential buildings and two outbuildings lost. Right now the Elk has no evacuation zones, everybody was able to go back to there." At the height of evacuations, approximately 215 people were evacuated from the Elk Fire, while the Lee Fire had a total of 840 people evacuated or in the Go zones.

"It's been amazing to watch the support of the town coming together, working

together with our federal partners to fight these fires. It's been wild, it's been scary, but you know we're a rural county and we bond together," Mazzola said.

While the timeline for full containment remains uncertain, crews continue to prioritize protecting "values at risk," including homes and infrastructure. Early firefighting efforts focused on life and property protection through rapid firebreaks, defensive firing operations, and stationing engines to prevent fire spread.

Oil and gas infrastructure in the Piceance Creek area has so far been protected thanks to industry regulations requiring cleared vegetation around well pads. Bill Mills, field manager for the BLM White River Field Office, said the design features have been effective.

"We'll have to do an assessment when the fire is complete, but what we've seen so far is that those design features have been very successful," Mills said.

Residents have faced challenges to essential services. Allison Rob, representing incident command, said some utility poles were damaged and power was briefly shut off in certain areas but quickly rerouted to maintain service. She could not confirm the status of damaged telephone or internet lines, noting utility companies would have the most accurate information.

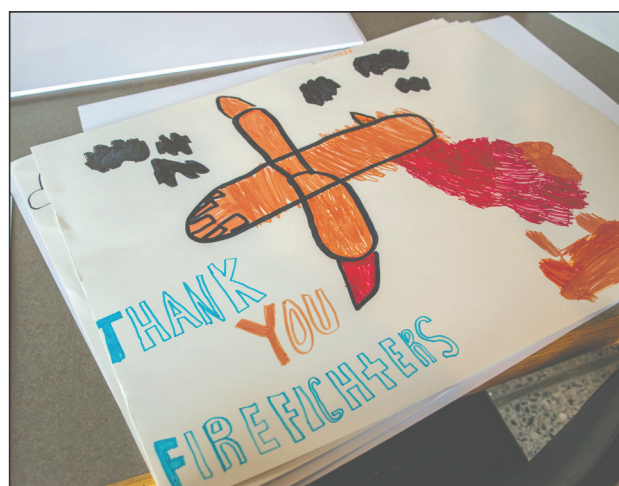
Rob also addressed water use in Meeker, noting that while there was some decline in the water system as residents watered lawns and fire engines used hydrants, no shortages occurred.

"I heard there was a bit of a decline in your water system then, but it didn't hurt it or lessen it — no one was lacking water," Rob said. Since then, water pressure has returned and tanks are full.

Public Information Officer Eric Coulter outlined ongoing risks to community safety in the coming days and weeks.

"The air quality with smoke, that's definitely one of the risks, I think, for immediate communities — just staying diligent and watching updates and how this fire progresses," Coulter said.

He urged residents to monitor official updates, stay alert to changing conditions, and be prepared to act if extreme fire behavior occurs.



Residents decorated the guardrail along Sulphur Creek Road and the fences around the fairgrounds, as well as homes and businesses around town with signs of appreciation and gratitude for the hundreds of firefighters battling the Elk and Lee fires in Rio Blanco County.

Happy 140th birthday to the Herald!

HT STAFF

MEEKER | With this issue of the HT we begin our 141st year of continuous community journalism as the second oldest newspaper in Northwest Colorado (the Steamboat Pilot beat us by two weeks because of travel troubles encountered getting the old printing press from Leadville to Meeker by our erstwhile founder, James Lyttle, whose hat has a place of honor in the editor's office.

In the years to follow, the Lyttle family stewarded

Meeker's "first rough draft of history" from 1885 until 1964, when the Cook family took over the assignment and kept the paper going until their retirement in 1992. From 1992 through 2001, the paper was operated by a succession of owners: Sureva Towler, Glenn and Donna Troester, and Kerry and Joy Murdock. The Bettis family owned the paper from 2001 to 2016, and the Turner/Walker team from 2016 to present-day.

In a time when community newspapers are vanishing, unable to compete with social media and internet advertising, it's the continued support, advertising and

subscriptions, content contributions and reader loyalty that keep the Herald going. We need you, and we thank you for making sure the town that "has almost always had a newspaper" according to Rich Lyttle, continues to have a paper every week.

Please consider advertising, if you own a business or want to help support one. Subscribe if you haven't done so already. And financial contributions toward the continued "thrivability" of the newspaper can go to The Lyttle Project, c/o Rio Blanco County Historical Society, PO Box 413, Meeker CO 81641.



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140
ANNIVERSARY
IN 2025

Community journalism depends 100% on community support in the form of advertisements, subscriptions, and reader submissions.



Fundraiser established for Bob Kydd, whose home was lost in the Elk Fire



Bob Kydd, 87, is a longtime Meeker local who lost his home and all his belongings in the Elk Fire. A GoFundMe has been set up to help him start over at <https://gofund.me/ae03ccf8>.

COURTESY PHOTO

HT Staff

MEEKER | Reports of losses and damages from the Elk and Lee Fires are just beginning to come in as the focus starts to shift from the fire to its aftermath.

You may not know Bob Kydd by name or face, but if you ever enjoyed the famous scones at the old Sleepy Cat Lodge, you “know” his work.

Now 87-years-old, Kydd’s home was destroyed in the Elk Fire, taking everything he owned.

Rachel Wix and Ryan Wix (the Wix family owned and operated Sleepy Cat Lodge for many years) have set up a GoFundMe for Kydd, who didn’t have coverage for any of his possessions.

Funds from the campaign will help Kydd secure temporary housing, replace essential items, clean up what’s left and start over. As of press time, more than half of a \$24,000 goal had been raised.

To donate, you can visit <https://gofund.me/od206f7> or donate directly to Kydd through Bank of the San Juans.

Meeker trustees address community concerns, approve funding for local events

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

MEEKER | On Aug. 5, the Meeker Town Board held a regular meeting at Town Hall. Trustees Jessica Browning, Jeff Madison, Amanda Smith and Christopher Lockwood attended the meeting. Trustee Kathleen Sizemore was upriver and unable to attend due to the fire, while Trustee Charles Day was off fighting the fires.

Mayor Pro Tem Christopher Lockwood ran the meeting in Mayor Travis Day’s absence, as Day was attending a fire debriefing meeting. The board started the meeting by approving the agenda with no changes. They then moved to approve the previous meeting minutes, with some changes requested.

Trustee Jeff Madison noted a couple of changes to the previous meeting minutes. First, during public participation, he pointed out that Sept. 22 is Founders Day. Next, in the regular meeting section, the third sentence of the second paragraph refers to a police department officer. Madison explained that the officer had received compliments from the district attorney and believed it appropriate to name the officer.

The officer receiving compliments was Officer Wylie Hetzel.

In the last paragraph on the same page, the third sentence from the bottom says, “town funding by opening the account with CSLIP,” and mentions “my thinking.” Madison wanted to clarify who “my” referred to.

Town Administrator Mandi Etheridge clarified that the minutes were prepared by Lisa Cook and that the “my” statement was from her, offering to alter the language.

Madison said, “I think we should just identify that.”

He then pointed out a grammatical issue in the last paragraph. After reading it, he said, “So engineer Hale is out until the first of August, and we should have this information by then. Also, I have not heard that from the energy audit yet. Who is ‘I’?”

Etheridge confirmed the “I” was her and offered to rephrase the sentence to

make it clearer.

After the changes, the board approved the minutes from the last meeting. Next, they approved the monthly disbursements. Town Administrator Mandi Etheridge highlighted some items.

She noted a new pay application, number 35, on the third page under the water fund — pay application number four for the Garfield Street water line to CRC, covering work done in July. Etheridge said the project maintains a 10 percent retainage and that the final payment, currently advertised, is scheduled for Aug. 19. At that time, the final retainage will be considered and the project potentially declared complete.

Line item 42 refers to the UNCC line in the water fund and water line. Etheridge explained that the town pays an umbrella company for utility locates and that these represent all utilities located and requests handled in July.

After the information was presented, the board approved the monthly disbursements.

During public participation, Annie Long spoke to the board about concerns related to the water load-out facility. She said the load-out is nice but has made her home unreasonable, especially her bedroom.

“I sleep on the couch, especially in the winter when they’re down there banging on their tanks,” Long said. “It happens from 11:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. They don’t turn off their headlights, they don’t turn off their engines. It’s horrible.”

She suggested not keeping the load-out open 24 hours a day, recommending a 10 p.m. closure and the adoption of a noise ordinance.

Lockwood responded, “People work different shifts. I’m sure they wonder why they’re there also.”

Long’s other concern was traffic between Second and Third streets on Water Street, describing it as “ridiculous except during the lunch hour.”

She suggested closing the street below the alley to allow Wendill’s parking and closing it on Water Street. Trustee Amanda Smith asked if any input had been given regarding

a noise ordinance at the water load-out. Etheridge said the town does not have a noise ordinance specific to the load-out and follows the regular noise ordinance, which covers construction noise from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

“As far as a barrier, I think there’s been a few things tried because of previous issues with people driving across Annie’s property off the water load-out,” Etheridge said.

After public participation, the board appointed a new Planning Commission member. Candidates Michael Selle, Jan Zuber, and Lukas Trout. After hearing from all three candidates and asking them questions, the Board of Trustees appointed Jan Zuber to become a planning commissioner member.

Next, Chamber Director Sara Stephenson requested a donation for UpLift Meeker. She explained the goal of bringing two live reindeer, each with a handler, to the Merry Meeker Christmas event. The donation request was for \$2,500.

Etheridge presented a budget breakdown, noting, “Currently, we have over \$20,000 in our discretionary fund budget. We’ve only spent \$4,310, so we have a little over \$15,000 still remaining for availability, unless you want to consider it a marketing or economic development expense, in which case we have \$10,000 remaining.”

The board approved the \$2,500 donation from the discretionary fund.

The board then heard a donation request from Mindy Finley, secretary of the Rio Blanco Golf Association and member of the Love of the Course fundraising committee.

She explained it’s their first annual fundraiser, which began by sending letters to about 200 people asking for donations. As thank yous donors will be served lunch, which will also be provided to golfers in the tournament. Northwest Auto agreed to sponsor a hole-in-one prize — a vehicle — requiring \$1,200 insurance coverage. Meeker Fertilizer, Mark and Naomi Etchart, helped cover part of that cost.

Other prizes include a \$500 MasterCard and Omaha Steaks for a year.

Space will be limited and they plan to do two flights that day about 24 in the morning and fewer in the afternoon — with play ending before sunset.

After hearing this, Mayor Pro Tem Lockwood asked about the golf course’s financial condition.

“This is the love of the course, it makes me wonder how you guys are doing financially,” questioned Lockwood.

Finley replied, “It’s been a struggle, although this year has been really good. We’ve heard compliments repeatedly about the condition of the course and what shape it’s in. Members of Brett Young’s band played golf here over the Fourth of July and said

it’s the best they’ve played all year, and they play all over the nation.”

She added that the fundraiser will help upgrade equipment, including mowers, the irrigation system, and kitchen equipment. The tournament is set for Sept. 14, 2025. The board approved a \$3,000 donation to the Rio Blanco Golf Association fundraiser.

The board then considered Resolution No. 08-2025 supporting expedited review for affordable housing projects under Proposition 123. Etheridge explained that the resolution is largely dictated by Colorado’s Department of Local Affairs and Division of Local Government and complements Proposition

123, which the town joined two years ago.

“The affordable housing definitions for Prop 123 are all outlined in Colorado Revised Statutes. One of the things they are asking towns to do is adopt a resolution explicitly stating that affordable housing projects will receive expedited review,” she said.

After discussion, the board approved the resolution. Near the meeting’s end, Town Administrator Mandi Etheridge and Mayor Travis Day gave their reports. The board’s next meeting will be Aug. 19, beginning with a joint work session with the Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation and Parks District board at Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.

RIO HAPPENINGS: AUG 3-9, 2025

ARRESTS

8/8/2025-Meeker PD arrested a male party for Possession of a Weapon While Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or a Controlled Substance and Violation of a Protection Order. He was taken to jail and has since been released.

CALL SUMMARIES

Due to the Lee Fire and Elk Fire this week, the Communications Center answered an average of 237 non-emergency calls per day.

8/5/2025 @ 4:32 pm. A driver of a white Jeep Cherokee politely waved at the roadblock on Highway 13...then drove right through it like it was a suggestion. A deputy was in the area and stopped the vehicle. The driver was turned back around.

8/6/2025 @ 3:00 pm. Semi driver decided to take a BLM road shortcut. Plot twist: it wasn’t short and the truck is still in the BLM wilderness. The driver was removed from the area with assistance from a BLM Officer.

8/6/2025 @ 4:19 pm. A one vehicle rollover occurred at the 23 mile-marker on County Road 23. Rangely PD responded along with Rangely Fire and EMS. The patient was transported by private vehicle to the hospital. Colorado State Patrol is handling the investigation.

8/8/2025 @ 12:14 am. A small fire was sparked by a roman candle at the 48 mile-marker on Highway 139. A Rangely PD officer

and Rangely Fire Dept. were able to get the fire out. The incident is being investigated.
8/8/2025 @ 6:45 pm. Meeker PD was called to the Fairgrounds when an intoxicated male showed

up and caused a scene at the Incident Command Post. The subject was taken into custody for Possession of a Weapon While Under the Influence and Violation of a Protection Order.

TOTAL CALLS: 1661 — 911 CALLS: 54 — ADMIN: 1607		
CALL TYPE	SHERIFF	MEEKER PD
911	4	0
ANIMAL	3	4
ASSIST	3	1
ASSIST MEEKER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT	1	1
ATTEMPT TO SERVE	3	0
BUSINESS CHECK	0	3
CERTIFIED VIN	0	1
CITIZEN ASSIST	0	2
CITIZEN CONTACT	1	1
CIVIL	0	1
CODE ENFORCEMENT	0	3
DIRECTED PATROL	13	2
DUI	1	1
FINGERPRINTS	1	0
FIRE	1	0
FOLLOW UP	0	2
HARASSMENT	0	1
INFORMATION	4	1
MOTORIST ASSIST	1	3
PHONE	0	1
PROTECTION ORDER VIOLATION	0	1
SMOKE REPORT	1	0
SUSPICIOUS	1	4
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	3	1
TRESPASS	0	2
TRAFFIC HAZARD	1	0
TRAFFIC STOP	3	1
VIN INSPECTION	1	5
WILDLAND FIRE	1	0
TOTALS	47	42
TOTAL INMATES IN JAIL AS OF 8/12/2025: 5		

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CPW hosting shooting event in Rangely Aug. 16

RANGELY | Join Colorado Parks and Wildlife for the Rangely Family Shoot on Saturday, Aug. 16 at the Rangely Elks Trap Range (1/2 mi. south of Rangely, east side of Dragon Trail) from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free for all ages and persons interested in learning new outdoor skills! Activities include shotgun, archery and .22 shooting. All gear and instruction provided! No previous experience or equipment needed! For questions, call 970-942-8676.

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 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. If you need assistance, call the Front Desk at 970-878-3403.

MAMBA Poker Ride Aug. 23 still on schedule

MEEKER | As of press time, the Meeker Area Mountain Biking Association's Poker Ride is still planned for Saturday, Aug. 23 at 9 a.m., although that may change depending on closures of the trail system from BLM due to the Lee Fire. Ride fee is \$25.

Community theater production of 'Matilda' rescheduled for Aug. 28-30

MEEKER | The Meeker Arts and Cultural Council's production of Roald Dahl's "Matilda: The Musical" scheduled for this weekend has been rescheduled due to the wildfires until Aug. 28-30.

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.

Food Bank thanks and items needed

MEEKER | Many, many thanks to all the Meekerites who have reached out to donate food and items through the Community Food Bank. So wonderful to see friends and neighbors jumping in with help and kindness. If you're interested in helping us restock some items this week, the Food Bank could use: mustard, mayo, canned green

chilies, tomato sauce, box stuffing, cold cereal, rice-a-roni, pancake mix, syrup, pasta and sauce, crackers and pod laundry soap.

Fire/smoke clean up supplies available

MEEKER | Meeker United Methodist Church has fire clean up buckets free of charge for anyone who is cleaning up from fire or smoke. The can be picked up at Ace Hardware, Clark's Market, or the Meeker Library. Please call 970-366-0072 for more information.

Meeker Library book club

MEEKER | The Meeker Public Library book club is reading James by Percival Everett. We will meet to discuss the book at the Meeker Public Library on Monday, Sept. 8, at 1:00 p.m. Extra copies are available for check out at the library if you would like to join in the fun. New members are always welcome!



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.

youthzone

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.

"HOPE IS LIKE A ROAD IN THE COUNTRY; THERE WAS NEVER A ROAD, BUT WHEN MANY PEOPLE WALK ON IT, THE ROAD COMES INTO EXISTENCE."

LIN YUTANG

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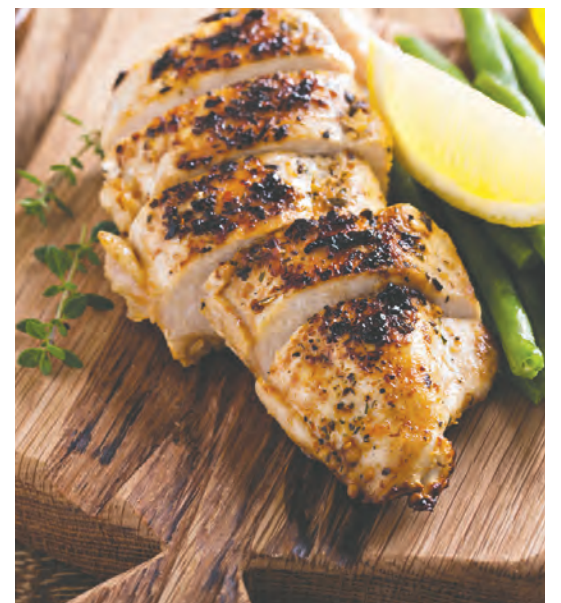
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Boneless

\$2.79
lb.



Boston Butt Pork Roast
Bone-In

\$2.79
lb.



Chicken Breasts
Boneless • Skinless • Family Pack

\$3.69
lb.

FRESH PRODUCE SPECIALS

Mammoth Mangos
Sweet

4/\$5

Pineapple
Whole Sweet

\$3.99
ea.

6 oz. Package
Raspberries or
11 oz. Plump
Blueberries

2/\$5

Baby-Cut Carrots
Basket & Bushel 1 lb.

\$1.29
ea.

Pink Lady Apples
Large

\$1.29
lb.

DAIRY & FROZEN SPECIALS

Yogurt Chobani 5.3-6.7 oz. Select Varieties Greek	\$1.19
Coffee Creamer Nestle Coffee Mate 32 oz. Select Varieties	2/\$8
Coffee Creamer Chobani 24 oz. Select Varieties	\$4.79
Ice Cream Tillamook 48 oz. Select Varieties	\$4.49
Pizza Digiorno 16.9-29.3 oz. Select Varieties	2/\$10
Texas Toast or Breadsticks Food Club 6-8 ct. Garlic	\$2.99

GROCERY SPECIALS

Bacon Food Club 16 oz. Regular or Thick Cut	\$5.99
Pasta American Beauty 24 oz. Select Varieties	\$1.79
Pasta Sauce Ragu 23.9-24 oz. Select Varieties	\$1.79
Pop-tarts Kellogg's 5-16 ct. Select Varieties	\$3.99
Crackers Cheez-It 5.75-13.4 oz. Select Varieties	\$3.79
Fruit Snacks Welch's 40 ct. Select Varieties	\$7.99

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Resetting our assumptive world

“Life is mostly froth and bubble;/ Two things stand like stone:/ Kindness in another’s trouble,/ Courage in your own.” ~ Adam Lindsay Gordon

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



Smoke from the Lee Fire rolled back into the valley on Tuesday, Aug. 12 after a day of relatively clear skies. The instant jolt of anxiety it triggered surprised me. I’ve lived in Colorado my entire life. Wildfire smoke has been a part of summer for as long as I can remember, although it does seem to be more frequent. Or maybe we just hear about them more often.

Last week’s events — a fire raging out of control headed toward town, evacuation orders, flinging things in suitcases, and driving out of town with tears in my eyes not from smoke, but from shared sorrow at so much destruction and the uncertainty of what was to come — left more of a mark than I realized.

I’m reminded that we live in an “assumptive world.” Understanding that concept has helped me manage my

reactions a little bit better. The assumptive world is made up of our beliefs and life experiences about ourselves, others, and the world in general. We base our actions on that assumptive world. For example, when you get in a car and drive 75mph down the interstate, your assumptive world believes and trusts that the other drivers will stay in their lane, maintain speed, etc. If you didn’t have those assumptions, driving would be terrifying.

When we face a traumatic event — a death, a disaster, a loss, or even an unanticipated change in plans — our assumptive world is challenged, and that makes us feel shaky, like the very foundations on which we’ve relied can’t be trusted. We’ve all experienced this to some degree.

Most of the time we barrel through the feelings and fears in a state of denial, or we self-medicate to numb the discomfort, or we lash out at others like small wounded animals, when we really need to take time to reset and reframe our assumptive world.

That’s even more true when the trauma is experienced collectively. Just in my lifetime there have been a

number of events that challenge that assumptive world on a grand scale... the attacks on 9/11, Columbine, and the pandemic, just to name a few. My parents’ generation had Vietnam and a string of assassinations. My grandparents had the Great Depression and Pearl Harbor. There’s always something.

No matter how hard you pray, or how well you behave, or what kind of magical thinking you apply, the life events that shake your assumptive world will happen. How we deal with them determines whether we become angry, bitter, fearful, broken people ranting at the sky gods or succumbing to false security in the form of conspiracy theories, or we do the work and take the time to recover and rebuild our internal sense of safety.

Slow down, acknowledge that your apple cart has been upset, examine what really matters, and determine what you can and can’t control. Then hold your people close, take time to connect with others and with yourself. It is possible to come through these events better and stronger, it’s called “post-traumatic growth,” and that is definitely the better option.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the citizens of Rio Blanco County from the Board of Rio Blanco County Commissioners

Dear Editor:

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the firefighters, emergency responders, and citizens who have worked tirelessly to protect our community during the Elk and Lee Fires.

We’d particularly like to recognize the locals: the Rio Blanco Fire Protection District, the Rio Blanco County Sheriff’s Office and White River Field Office-based BLM crews. Their immediate response prevented the Elk Fire from establishing south of County Road 8. The results of these efforts demonstrate the critical importance of our local volunteer firefighters, and we are exceedingly grateful for their coordination and response.

As the Lee and Grease Fires expanded and the fires threatened structures across

the county, it became apparent that our local firefighters needed air resources and logistic support. We declared an emergency, and with the governor’s support this made federal funding available to augment state and local resources.

While the Incident Management Team mobilized to Meeker, the Rio Blanco Sheriff’s Office was coordinating road closures and evacuation efforts to protect our community. The county Emergency Manager convened an Emergency Operations Center — the first in Rio Blanco County history — and key personnel began to meet and plan to address the critical needs of the community:

On the heels of the County Fair, the fairgrounds transitioned into an Incident Command Post. Fairgrounds staff turned the site into a livestock evacuation center and the staff housed and fed more than 100 animals.

The county’s Public Health and Human Services staff, in coordination

with state representatives from Colorado Department of Human Services and the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, worked to make food and shelter available for evacuees. Seniors and vulnerable citizens were preemptively transported to safe accommodations with the help of Rangely resources.

County and town staff filled Emergency Support Function positions: we continue to work together to make sure critical transportation, safety, communication and services address community needs while coordinating with the Incident Management Team.

We thank Rocky Mountain Critical Incident Management Team 3, state DHS and DHSEM staff, resources from neighboring counties, the BLM White River Field Office, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Blanco Ranger District, Rangely, Rio Blanco County and Meeker staff, and the many locals who kept businesses open

to serve our community. Thank you all for coming together and demonstrating the grit that makes us #RioBlancoStrong.

We’d also like to thank you for supporting each other: ranchers have been working together to move livestock out of harm’s way, and hundreds of animals have been relocated. We continue to work with the Sheriff, Incident Management Team and livestock owners to find solutions as the fire evolves.

At the time of this writing, we are unaware of any human injury resulting from the fires. We encourage you to stay safe: call 811 before digging, be prepared for potential evacuation, and continue to look out for each other.

We are proud to serve this resilient community, and we stand with you—today, and in all the challenges ahead.

Jennifer O’Hearon
Doug Overton

Callie Scritchfield
Rio Blanco County Commissioners

MUSEUM MUSINGS: Letters from history No. 94

Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, October 1, 1879

General A.H. TERRY,
Saint Paul, Minn.:

Major Thornburgh’s command, three compa-

nies of cavalry and one of infantry, were attacked near the White River Ute Agency, Colorado. Thornburgh and ten men were killed, and about twenty soldiers and teamsters were wounded. The balance of the command is in a condition to hold out until the reinforcements ordered reach it. As the country is very mountainous, Crook will want more infantry than he has, and I wish you to send without delay the six companies of the Seventh infantry now at Fort Snelling to Rawlins Station, on the Union Pacific Railroad. The men should take with them for-

ty rounds of ammunition per man. An additional supply will be placed at Rawlins. The commanding officer will report to General Crook as he passes through Omaha. General Crook will have camp and garrison equipment provided at Rawlins Station.

P.H. SHERIDAN
Lieutenant-General.

Chicago, Ill., October 1, 1879

To ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY:
Telegram from Captain Payne to General Crook announces that Major

Thornburgh’s column of three companies of cavalry and one of infantry were attacked at Milk Creek, Colorado, on September 29, and driven back to where the wagon was parked, with the loss of Major Thornburgh and ten men killed, with Lieutenant Paddock and Dr. Grimes slightly wounded, and twenty soldiers and teamsters wounded. About three-fourths of the animals have been killed. The Command is now in good condition to hold out until re-enforcements reach it. Major Thornburgh was met by apparently friendly Indians, as will appear from the following telegram yesterday:

General George Crook,
Chicago:

Thornburgh telegraph on 26th from Bear River, Colorado: “Have met some Ute chiefs here. They seem friendly, and promise to go with me to the agency. Say Utes don’t understand why we have come. Have tried to explain satisfactorily. Do not anticipate any trouble.”

R.W. WILLIAMS,
Assistant
Adjutant-General

Reinforcements to the number 530, cavalry and infantry, have been dispatched, under Colonel Merritt, to the relief of Captain Payne.

P.H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General

Chicago, Ill., October 1, 1879

To General E.D. TOWNSEND:

General Crook has ordered General Merritt, with 530 men, cavalry and infantry, to the relief of the command of Major Thornburgh. In addition, four companies of cavalry have been ordered from Fetterman, Laramie, and Robinson, and I have ordered six companies of Seventh Infantry from Fort Snelling to report to General Crook, at Rawlins Station, Union Pacific Railroad. Major Thornburgh was attacked in a canyon.

P.H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

E.A. Hayt
Commissioner

**CHUCKWAGON
RADINO**

menu

AUG 18-21/22

Monday
Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, peaches

Tuesday
Stuffed pork chops w/ gravy, peas, orange, oatmeal raisin cookie

Wednesday
Baked chicken breast, pasta w/ gravy, peas & onions, grape juice

Thursday/Friday
Supreme pizza, artichoke hearts, orange, yogurt

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

“To announce that there must be no criticism of the President, or that we are to stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public.”
- THEODORE ROOSEVELT

This is a paid advertisement.

Fort Omaha, Sept., Sept. 30.

14th Amendment

Section 1

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Section 3

No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4

The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5

The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

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ADS AND DESIGN
ads@ht1885.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS & BILLING
accounts@ht1885.com

PUBLISHER
Golden Lasso Media, Inc.

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

goldenlasso.online
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Regular deadlines:
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editor@ht1885.com

Display Advertising:
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Fire recovery resources for landowners

RBC | From the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts: we hope you are safe during this challenging time. As of Aug. 12, the Elk and Lee Fires have burned over 130,000 acres in Rio Blanco County (Lee Fire 6% contained, Elk Fire 30% contained as of Aug. 12).

With many agencies lending a hand, we want to ensure you have access to available support. Please see our website for available resources to assist:

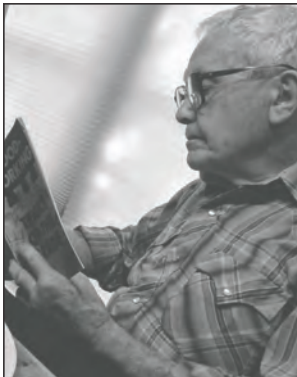
<https://www.whiterivercd.com/wildfire-recovery-resources>

DEATH NOTICE

James Lee Ruckman

Jan. 29, 1937 ~ Aug. 9, 2025

Services to be decided at a future date.



OBITUARY POLICY: The HT does not charge for obituaries that have a local connection to Rio Blanco County. We consider this part of our responsibility to maintaining the historic record. This service is made possible by our Lyttle Project donors, HT advertisers and subscribers. To submit an obituary, please email editor@ht1885.com

HISTORY LESSONS: Meeker's Founders — W. Harry Goff

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) in September please contact editor@ht1885.com or call 970-878-4017.

By **ED PECK**
Special to the HT

Lions and tigers and bears! Oh my! Now that I have your attention, I used the old bait and switch to tell you that Rio Blanco County once had an overabundance of mountain lions and bears, just no tigers, that I am aware of. Early Meeker Herald newspapers often had stories of humorous or disastrous encounters with wildlife. Rio Blanco has had more than its fair share of lion hunters. One of our claims to national fame is John Byron Goff who guided Teddy Roosevelt on two hunts. He was later employed in Yellowstone Park to



W. Harry Goff reduce the numbers of lions there, hired with a personal recommendation by Teddy. In the early 1900's, the Federal and local governments agreed that uncontrolled lion populations were not a good idea. Local livestock associations paid large bounties on lions and wolves.

Now the switch... This story is not about big game hunter John Goff but about his older, more stable brother, Harry. William Harry Goff, known as Harry or W.H., is one of our Meeker founding fathers. He is listed on our courthouse monument but was apparently not one of the original Meeker Townsite shareholders. Harry came

to Meeker in January 1884. According to one biography, Harry had an early contract for carrying the mail between the Grand River (now Colorado) and Meeker. Before coming to the wilds of Colorado, Harry married Mary Rusk Hart in Osage County, Kansas in 1881. Harry was just as effective in civilizing the White River Valley as his brother John, but in a quieter way. E.P. Wilber and Harry started the first Meeker stable. Wilber sold his half in March of 1885. In 1887 Harry was a partner with G.W. Stone and Oscar Collet in a Meeker business: Stone, Goff and Company which was operating both the Gregory and Pioneer Stables. Harry raised cattle on 160 acres southeast of Meeker originally homesteaded by George Zitman. In 1893 he relocated to a ranch west of Rangely almost to the Utah border and accumulated 389 acres. In the six years that he served Rio Blanco County as commissioner from the Rangely district, the county prospered. He had an interest in the Union Oil Company and shares

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WALBRIDGE WING RESIDENTS RETURN HOME TO PMC



COURTESY PHOTO

Pioneers Medical Center would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our amazing community, our wonderful staff, and our incredibly supportive neighbors in Rifle — Grand River Health and Grand River Care Center — for caring for and housing our Walbridge Wing residents and helping our staff during the recent evacuation.

We are especially grateful to Lee Overton of NW Auto Sales and Service in Meeker for allowing PMC to use a vehicle, and to the ERBM Recreation and Park District for providing their van to help move residents safely.

While we are thankful to have our residents home, the fire continues to pose a threat in our region. We encourage everyone to remain vigilant, look out for one another, and keep our neighbors in your thoughts.

in the Gilsonite mine in Utah. The ranch was close enough to attract trade with the Utes from Utah. In the 1900 Federal Census (Rangely Dist.) W.H. Goff's stated profession was “Indian Trader.” Harry's son, Claude, was only 15 at the time and one source claimed Claude could speak the Ute language “like a native son,” which is an odd turn of phrase. Ranching after the end of WWI was precarious. The inflated cattle prices during the war dropped. About 1919, most of Harry's property was foreclosed on. The Goff family spent some years in Florida. I found Harry in the 1920 Garland County, Arkansas, census living in Hot Springs, Arkansas, with his wife,

son Claude, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. William Harry Goff died in Cedaredge, Delta, Colorado 1933 at the age of 77. His wife, Mary also died in Cedaredge, 1945, and their son, Claude died in Arizona in 1957.

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.

LOOSE ENDS: Meeker Strong

By **DOLLY VISCARDI**
Special to the HT

Thank you, firefighters, firefighting support staff, as well as all the Meeker families and friends who are continuing to make sure Meeker, as well as the surrounding countryside, is on its way to recovery.

The MEEKER STRONG support system remains. It is so great to see those caring acts of kindness and love.



Dolly Viscardi

How to contact your Federal representatives:

Sen. John Hickenlooper — (202) 224-5941 — hickenlooper.senate.gov
374 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Michael Bennet — (202) 224-5852 — bennet.senate.gov
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Sports & Recreation

Meeker Softball begins new chapter with Shelton-Kuper at the helm

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com

MEEKER | After serving as assistant coach last season, Megan Shelton-Kuper is stepping into the role of head coach for the Meeker High School softball team, bringing both familiarity with the players and a deep connection to the program she once played for herself.

“When our previous coach resigned, I felt inspired to take on the challenge,” Shelton-Kuper said. “I’d built strong relationships with the girls and knew I could support them in continuing to grow this season.”

That growth will be essential as the team faces a transition year. Several seniors graduated last spring, leaving opportunities for new players — including some stepping onto the softball field for the first time. Fortunately, the program also returns experienced athletes ready to lead.

This year’s senior class includes Addie Knowles, Emma Bauer, Autumn Stallings, and Jewell McPherson.

Addie Knowles, one of the seniors, said this year will be a growth year for the team. “This year will be a growing year with a lot of young and new players. But it should be a good year,” she said. “I’m hoping to improve my ERA and increase my strikeouts with pitching and strengthen my batting average.”

Another one of those returning players is junior Kayla Castillo, who spoke about her offseason

work, goals and excitement for the season.

“During the offseason I focused a lot on my hitting and overall maintaining a consistent swing,” Castillo said. “I would like to make it to regionals with my team this year and make sure everyone on the team feels comfortable and confident in each other’s ability to work hard in order to get there. I’m most excited to get back on the field and really just have a good time with my teammates, opponents and supporters.”

Shelton-Kuper said her returning players bring valuable leadership to the program.

“These returning players have been part of the program for a few years and are already helping mentor the newer girls,” she said. “My focus is on building our team dynamic and making steady progress each week.”

The schedule won’t allow for much easing in. The Cowboys open their season on the road Aug. 19 against Rifle, a team that defeated them 24–3 last year, before heading to the Eaton Tournament Aug. 22–23. Eaton, one of the state’s perennial powers, ended Meeker’s season in the regional tournament last fall.

“Those games will be a challenge, but they’re also an opportunity,” Shelton-Kuper said. “We want to use those early matchups to build momentum for the rest of the league season.”

This will be Shelton-Kuper’s second head coaching role at Meeker High School — she also led the girls basketball team last



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO
Coach Megan Shelton-Kuper (right) high-fives junior Addie Knowles during a Meeker softball game last season. Knowles is one of the seniors on the team this season.

winter — and she said she is determined to set the tone for the future of the program.

“My long-term vision is to establish a proud and supportive foundation for Meeker softball,” she said. “I want the girls to focus on their personal and team growth, and most importantly, to enjoy the game.”

For Shelton-Kuper, who grew up playing softball in Meeker, the role holds personal significance.

“It’s an honor to now lead the program,” she said. “I’m excited for the season ahead and can’t

wait to see the progress our girls make.”

Shelton-Kuper’s first season at the helm marks both a new chapter for the program and a homecoming for a coach deeply rooted in Meeker softball. With a mix of experienced leaders and eager newcomers, the Cowboys will look to grow stronger each week, build momentum through early challenges, and set the foundation for future success. Good luck to the team this upcoming season — and as always, go Cowboys.

Boys golf returns to Rangely High School for first time since 2018 RHS alum leading the revival of the boys golf program



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Clark Edwards, head coach of the Rangely High School boys golf team, practices his swing as he prepares to lead the program’s return this season.

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com

RANGELY | For the first time in seven years, boys high school golf is back on the course at Rangely High School.

Leading the revival is head coach Clark Edwards, a 2008 Rangely graduate who has called the town home nearly his entire life—except for a few years in Arizona, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in Professional Golf

Management from the Golf Academy of America. It was there that he sharpened his skills and deepened his passion for teaching the game.

“I’ve loved this sport since I was six years old,” Edwards said. “To now be in a position to give back and help build something meaningful for these kids and this community—it’s really special.”

Edwards brings both competitive playing experience and a teacher’s mindset to the program, which is fielding a team this fall for the first time since 2018. His goal this season is to lay a strong foundation, both technically and culturally, as the team gets back into the swing of high school competition.

“We’re starting fresh, so it’s about developing the fundamentals, building confidence, and creating a team atmosphere these players can be proud of,” he said.

Several of the athletes are brand new to competitive golf, and Edwards is focused on meeting each player where they are while preparing them for tournament play across northwest Colorado. The

team’s schedule includes several regional meets, giving the Panthers a chance to gain experience and grow as the season progresses.

Edwards and his wife, Norian, have been married for nine years and are raising their two sons—Brooks, 5, and Xander, 2—in Rangely. As a family, they’re excited to support the program and be part of its return.

The Rangely community has rallied around the team’s revival, offering enthusiasm and support.

“The support has been phenomenal,” Edwards said. “The school, especially Kyle Boydston, has been instrumental in getting the program off the ground, handling logistics and providing encouragement. Utah Gas Corp deserves a huge thank you for their generous donation, which gave us the financial boost we needed. The parents have been fantastic too—many of them are golfers themselves, so they’re excited and fully behind the team’s revival.”

The team currently has six athletes signed up, with hopes of adding more before the school year begins. Edwards said his goals for

the season are centered around development, competition, and most of all, enjoyment.

“Competitively, I want the team to play their best at tournaments and have fun while doing it—golf is more enjoyable when you’re in the mix,” he said. “I believe a few of our players have a real shot at qualifying for the state tournament. Developmentally, my focus is on building confidence and skills so they can grow as golfers and enjoy the sport long-term.”

The Panthers open their season Aug. 7 at Cedaredge. Edwards said the team is focusing on the fundamentals as they prepare for their first tournament.

“We’re emphasizing the basics: understanding the rules of golf, practicing proper etiquette, and building a love for the game,” he said. “For newcomers, we’re focusing on creating a supportive environment where they feel comfortable competing. Regular practice sessions and mock tournaments will help them get a feel for the real thing.”

Cont. on P7



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The HT is seeking volunteer sports reporters and photographers for RHS varsity sports. If you're interested, contact jared@ht1885.com.



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BLM Colorado issues emergency closure of public lands near Lee Fire

Temporary closure is for firefighter and public safety

Special to the HT

RBC | The Bureau of Land Management White River Field Office has issued an emergency public closure of additional public lands for firefighter and public safety in the vicinity of the Lee Fire.

Please refer to the map for accurate information on the lands that

are closed. The order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until the Lee Fire is declared-controlled or until this order is amended or rescinded.

Firefighter and public safety are the highest priority. The temporary closing of the lands is to reduce exposure to hazardous situations due to the rapid rates of spread and fire behavior that

the Lee fire has exhibited recently. The public is to remain clear of these closed lands.

This includes the trail system in Meeker.

Please use caution and watch for firefighters when traveling in the Meeker area. For more information, please call the White River Field Office front desk at 970-878-3800.

White River National Forest issues temporary area closure for portion of Blanco Ranger District due to Elk Fire

Special to the HT

RBC | For the protection of health and safety to the public pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited within the White River National Forest, Blanco Ranger District, Rio Blanco and Moffat counties, in the State of Colorado.

The restricted area is further defined as the area within the Blanco Ranger District located to the west of the Long-Lost Trail system and to include the Long-Lost Trail systems. The Long-Lost trail is defined as trail #1808 from its

start along county road 8 (Long Lost Trailhead), extending north to trail 1809.2 and continuing to trail 1805, and extending to the junction with the Routt National Forest. The attached map shows the area of temporary closure order.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. Going into or occupying the temporary area closure within the National Forest System lands until order closure order is rescinded: See

Attached Map 36 C.F.R. 261.53(e)

2. Being on the closed portion Trail #1808, 1892.2, and 1805: See attached map 36

C.F.R. 261.53(e).

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty;

2. Persons with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

This order shall remain in effect until rescinded or until December 31, 2025, whichever event occurs first.

(Cont.) Edwards takes helm

Cont. from P6

Looking ahead, Edwards hopes this season is the beginning of something lasting.

“My vision is to build a sustainable program that lasts for years—one that my own young sons can join when they reach high

school,” he said. “I want to grow the team by fostering a love for golf in the community, encouraging more kids to try it, and creating a culture of commitment and improvement. With continued community support, I see Rangely boys golf becoming a source of

pride for the town.”

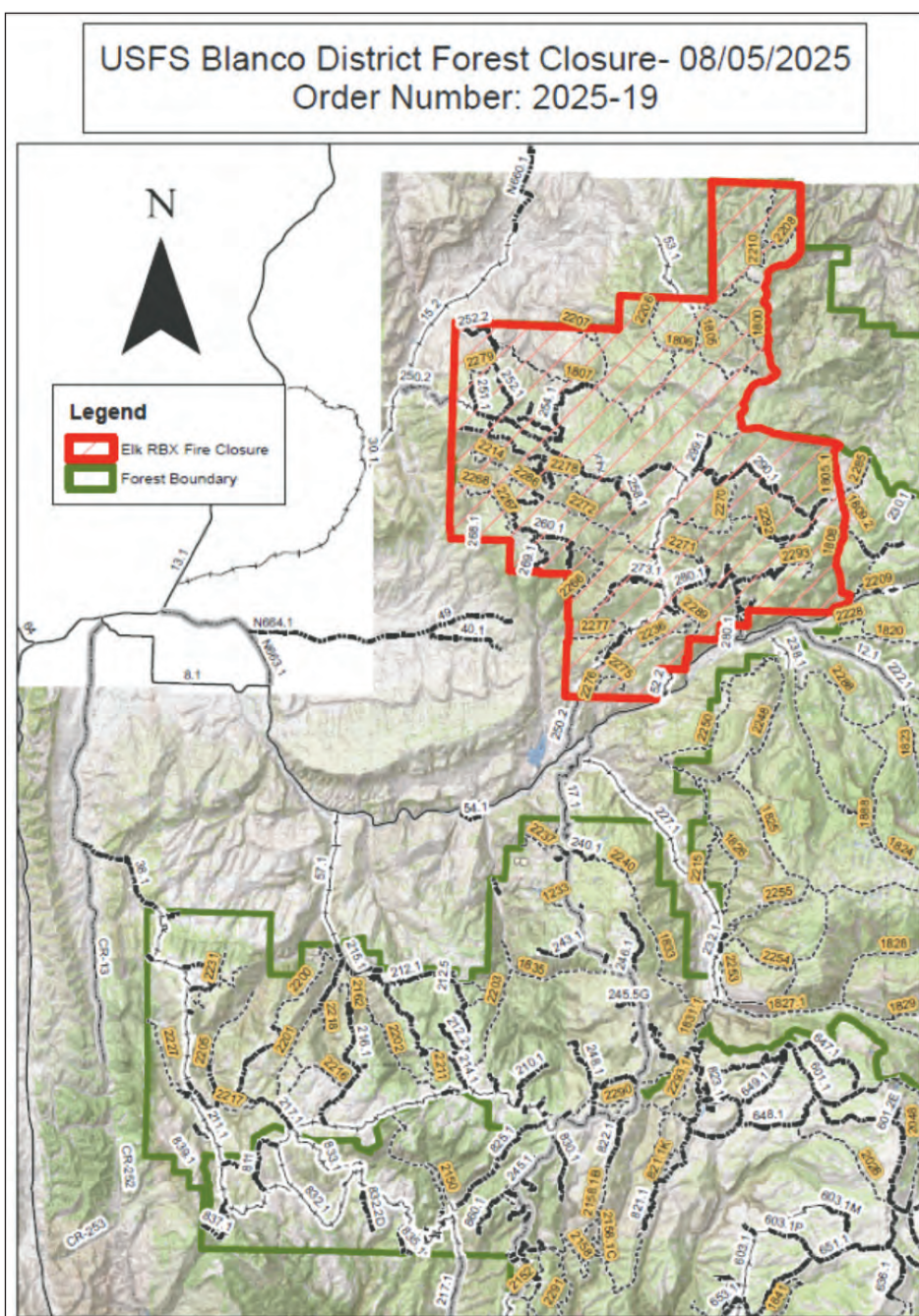
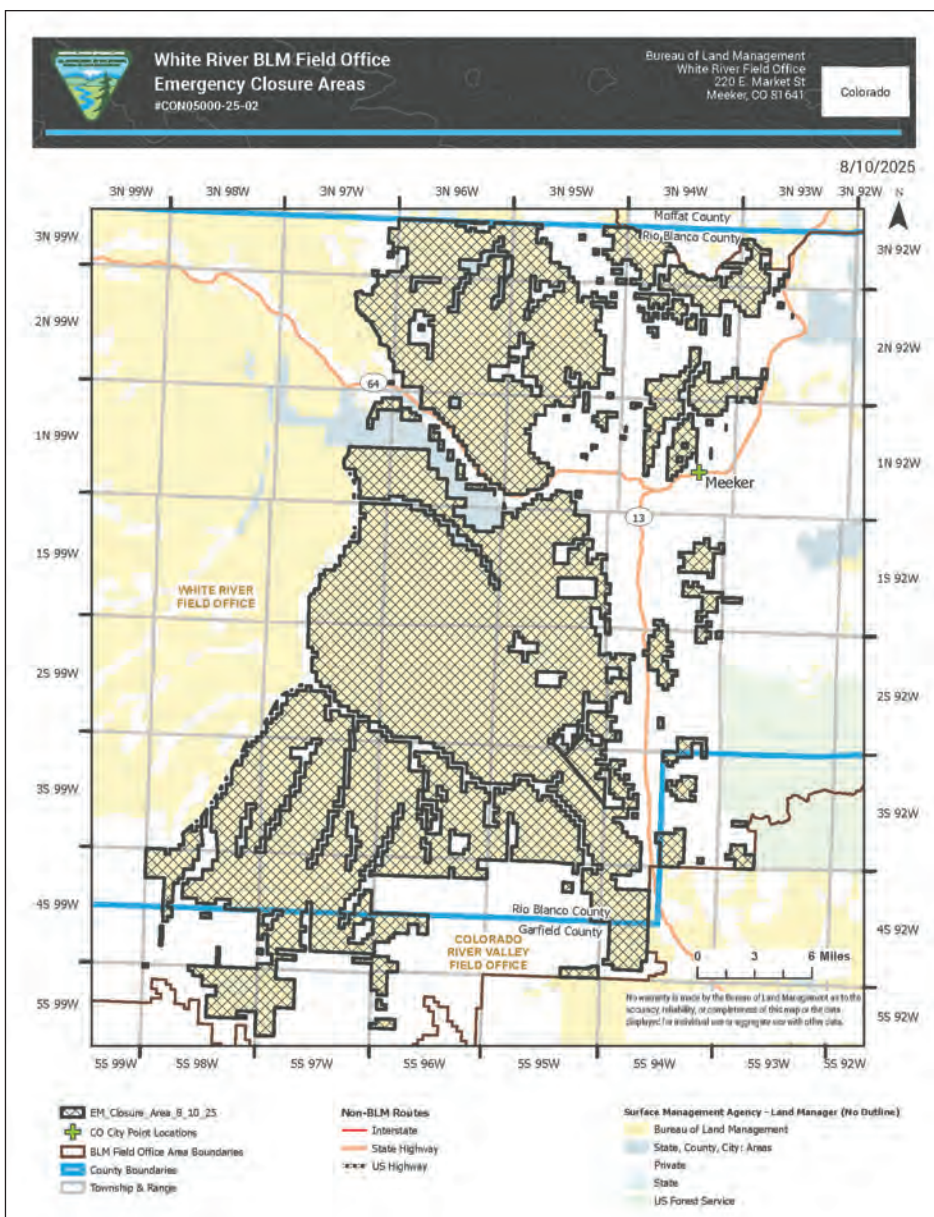
With renewed energy, a dedicated coach, and strong community backing, Rangely boys golf is back on course. As the Panthers tee off for their first season in seven years, the message is clear: Rangely golf is here to stay.



Navigating medical billing can sometimes be tricky, and we've recently made some updates to our billing processes that might leave you with questions.

Don't worry—we're here to help!

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SHEEP LEAD COMPETITION



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.

FACEBOOK PHOTO

JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

We got our captions mixed up last week. This little lady is Ansley Embrey and her lamb, Rainbow.



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Tayslyn Dinwiddie led her sheep, Tomato, in matching strawberry outfits during the sheep lead competition at the Rio Blanco County Fair. The lamb is owned by Jak and Amy Kilduff.

Ed Coryell
THANK YOU

Thank you, Ed!
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The Rio Blanco County Commissioners congratulate the Fair Board, 4-H families and volunteers on a successful 2025 Rio Blanco County Fair! Thank you for your hard work and dedication



Partial results from the 2025 Rio Blanco County Fair

RBC | These are the Fair results we have received thus far. As more come in, we'll publish them.

INDOOR OPEN,

Most Blue Ribbons Dept 1 Horticulture & Dept 2 Flowers: DAN FRANCIS

Dept 1 Horticulture, Judge's Choice: Ellen Reichert, Lettuce Best in Show Mentor & Me, Emmi Jones, Zucchini Best in Show Adult, Kelli Garcia, Rosemary Champion Mentor & Me, Lainey Carroll, Green Tomatoes Reserve Mentor & Me, Collins Lohry, Hot Pepper Champion Youth, Ari Theos, Lemon Cucumbers Reserve Youth, Anaiya Jones, Chestnut Crab Champion Adult, Lindsey Hayden, Cherry Tomatoes Reserve Adult, Kelli Garcia, Butter Crunch Lettuce Champion Senior, Stephanie Oldland, Rhubarb Reserve Senior, Karen Arnold, Chives Champion Super Senior, Ellen Reichert, Lettuce Reserve Super Senior, Jerry Seely, Yellow Zucchini

Dept 2 Flowers

Judge's Choice, Jim Ellis, Maroon Lily Best in Show Mentor & Me, Emmi Jones, Sunflower Best in Show Youth, Anaiya Jones, Sweet Pea Best in Show Adult, Emily Eliassen, Daisies Best in Show Senior, Jim Ellis, Maroon Lily Best in Show Super Senior, Elaine Jordan, Gladiolus

Champion Mentor & Me, Emmi Jones, Sunflower Reserve Mentor & Me, Emmi Jones, Any Other Flower Champion Youth, Grace Raley, Sweet Peas Reserve Youth, Anaiya Jones, African Marigolds Champion High School, Brooklyn Nielsen, Potted Plant, Colored Foliage Reserve High School, Dawn Arnold, Potted Plant, Scheflera Champion Adult, Emily Eliassen, Pansie Reserve Adult, Melissa Bak, Black-eyed Susans Champion Senior, Jim Ellis, Maroon Lily Reserve Senior, Dora Dunton, Potted Plant, Green Foliage Champion Super Senior, Elaine Jordan, Pansies Reserve Super Senior, Elaine Jordan, Gladiolus

Most Blue Ribbons Dept 3 Pantry Stores,, Dept 4 Baked Goods & Dept 5 Misc Foods: , MARY ANN SEELY,

Dept 3 Pantry Stores,, Judge's Choice, Christine Halandras, Rhubarb Cherry Jam Best in Show Mentor & Me, Josie Chintala, Chokeycherry Jelly Best in Show Youth, Afton White,, Cowboy Candy Best in Show High School, Dixie Hall, Plum Jam Best in Show Adult, Nikki White, Cowgirl Kisses Best in Show Senior, Vicki Haas,, Pickles Best in Show Super Senior, Mary Whalin, Apricot Jam

Champion Mentor & Me, Josie Chintala, Chokeycherry Jelly Reserve Mentor & Me, Josie Chintala, Tomatoes Champion Youth, Afton White, Candied Jalapenos Reserve Youth, Cambrey Rogers, Tomatoes Champion High School, Dixie

Hall, Plum Jam Champion Adult, Nikki White, Cowgirl Kisses Reserve Adult, Brittany Chintala, Chokeycherry Jelly Champion Senior, Vicki Haas, Spicy Dill Pickles Reserve Senior, Vicki Haas, Beets Champion Super Senior, Mary Whalin, Apricot Jam Reserve Super Senior, Christine Halandras,, Rhubarb Cherry Jam

Dept 4 Baked Goods,, Judge's Choice, Mary Whalin, Angel Food Cake Best in Show Mentor & Me, Lyla Lohry, Gluten Free Quick Bread Best in Show Youth, Emilee Woodruff, Sandwich/coconut & pecan Best in Show Adult, Jessica Navarro, Sugar Cookie Painting Best in Show Senior, Vicki Haas, Quick Bread Best in Show Super Senior, Mary Whalin, Angel Food Cake

Champion Mentor & Me, Lyla Lohry, Gluten-Free Quick Bread Reserve Mentor & Me, Lyla Lohry, Fudge Champion Youth, Emilee Woodruff, Sandwich/coconut & pecan Reserve Youth, Afton White, Orange Suckers Champion Adult, Jessica Navarro, Sugar Cookie Painting Reserve Adult, Jessica Navarro, Sugar Cookie Painting Champion Senior, Vicki Haas, Quick Bread Reserve Senior, Pattie Terp, Ginger Snaps Champion Super Senior, Mary Whalin, Angel Food Cake Reserve Super Senior, Mary Ann Seely, Whole Wheat Bread Dept 5 Misc Foods &, Judge's Choice, Josie Chintala, Brown Eggs Farm Foods, Best in Show Mentor & Me, Fisher Lohry, Trail Mix Best in Show Youth, Raegan Roetker, Dried Fruit Best in Show Adult, Lenka Mariana Szoke, Soap Best in Show Senior, Toni Francis, Fruit Leather Best in Show Super Senior, Chuck Reichert, Honey

Champion Mentor & Me, Fisher Lohry, Trail Mix Champion Mentor & Me, Josie Chintala, Brown Eggs Reserve Mentor & Me, Laney Carroll, Brown Eggs Champion Youth, Cambrey Rogers, Brown Eggs Champion Youth, Reagan Roetcher, Dried Fruit Reserve Youth, Reagan Roetcher, Dried Fruit Champion Adult, Rebecca Elder, White Eggs Champion Adult, Lenka Mariana Szoke, Homemade Soap Reserve Adult, Amanda Smith, Green Eggs Champion Senior, Toni Francis, Fruit Leather Reserve Senior, Toni Francis, Fruit Leather Champion Super Senior, Christine Halandras, Dried Mint Reserve Super Senior, Chuck Reichert, Honey

Most Blue Ribbons Dept



KIM EKSTROM PHOTOS

6 Needlework & Sewing & Dept 7

Hobbies & Crafts, NANCY CHINTALA, Dept 6 Needlework , Judge's Choice, Julie Kestill, Crochet Doily Best in Show Youth, Cambrey Rogers, Embellished Jeans Best in Show Adult, Jasmynne Denney, 1880's Woman's Dress Best in Show Senior, Michelle Tucker, Self-Striping Hat Best in Show Super Senior, Nancy Chintala, Toy Duck Best in Show Professional, Hannah Turner, Unfinished Quilt Top

Champion Youth, Cambrey Rogers, Sewing - Pink Skirt Reserve Youth, Carson Cook, Knitted Pillow Champion Adult, Jasmynne Denney, 1880's Corset Reserve Adult, Shawn Prenzlow, Fabric Mice Champion Senior, Barbara Trumbo, Wool Applique Reserve Senior, Twila Morris, Rodeo Tote Bag Champion Super Senior, Elinor Williams, Braided Rug Reserve Super Senior, Nancy Chintala, Adult Sweater Champion Professional, Hannah Turner, Unfinished Quilt Top Reserve Champion, Hannah Turner, Purse

Most Blue Ribbons Dept 6.1

Quilts, HANNAH TURNER, Dept 6.1 Quilting, Judge's Choice, Susan Bellamy, Lap Quilt, Pieced, Machine Quilted Best in Show Youth, Madelin Stephans, Miscellaneous Quilting Best in Show Adult, Leslie Marley, Lap Quilt, Hand Pieced, Pro Quilting Best in Show Senior, Stephanie Oldland, Lap Quilt, Hand Pieced, Pro Quilting Best in Show Super Senior, Billie Dunlap, Hand Appliqued, Hand Quilted Best in Show Professional, Hannah Turner, Bed Quilt, Pieced, Machine Quilted

Champion Youth, Madelin Stephans, Miscellaneous Quilting Champion Adult, Leslie Marley, Pieced, Pro Quilting Reserve Adult, Leslie Marley, Lap Quilt, Pieced, Pro Quilting Champion Senior, Stephanie Oldland, Lap Quilt, Pieced by Group, Pro Quilting Reserve Senior, Stephanie

Champion Mentor & Me, (no name) Magid, Watercolor-Footprints Reserve Mentor & Me, Wyatt Alger, Mixed Media-Penquins Champion Youth, Alice Massey, Sculpture Art Dough-Bluebirds Reserve Youth, Alice Massey, Sculpture Art Dough-Zebras Champion High School, Hailey Cox, Pencil, Pen, Ink-Old Cowboy Reserve High School, Brynna Tafoya, Pencil, Pen, Ink-Books the Cat Champion Adult, Derrick Egger, Mixed Media-Horse & Indian Reserve Adult, Mo Merriam, Mixed Media-Mandela Champion Senior, Janice Weinholdt, Acrylic/Oil-Old Man Reserve Super Senior, Elinor Williams, Acrylic/Oil-2 Horses and Rider Champion Professional, Josie Kemry, Pencil, Pen, Ink-Portrait

Champion Mentor & Me, (no name) Magid, Watercolor-Footprints Reserve Mentor & Me, Wyatt Alger, Mixed Media-Penquins Champion Youth, Alice Massey, Sculpture Art Dough-Bluebirds Reserve Youth, Alice Massey, Sculpture Art Dough-Zebras Champion High School, Hailey Cox, Pencil, Pen, Ink-Old Cowboy Reserve High School, Brynna Tafoya, Pencil, Pen, Ink-Books the Cat Champion Adult, Derrick Egger, Mixed Media-Horse & Indian Reserve Adult, Mo Merriam, Mixed Media-Mandela Champion Senior, Janice Weinholdt, Acrylic/Oil-Old Man Reserve Super Senior, Elinor Williams, Acrylic/Oil-2 Horses and Rider Champion Professional, Josie Kemry, Pencil, Pen, Ink-Portrait

Dept 9 Photography, Judge's Choice, Gary Oba, Cellphone-Woman Near Mosque Best in Show Youth, Sophia Moody, Cellphone-Stained Glass Windows Best in Show High School, Hayden Garcia, Camera-Football Player Best in Show Adult, Lindsey Hayden, Cellphone-Stormy Trappers Lake Best in Show Senior, Debbie Cook, Cellphone-Eifel Tower Best in Show Super Senior, Jim Magid, Camera-Robin With Worm Best in Show Professional, Gary Oba, Camera-Donkey Under Arch

Champion Youth, Sophia Moody, Cellphone-Stained Glass Windows Champion High School, Hayden Garcia, Camera-Football Player Reserve High School, Hayden Garcia, Camera-B&W Cowgirl Champion Adult, Lindsey Hayden, Cellphone-Stormy Trappers Lake Reserve Adult, Chris Reiding-er, Cellphone-High Meadow at Night Champion Super Senior, Connie Kelley, Cellphone-Dahlia Reserve Super Senior, Connie Kelley, Cellphone-Waterfall Champion Professional, Gary Oba, Cellphone-Misc. Reserve Professional, Gary Oba, Cellphone-Portrait

Dept 10 Wool Fleece, Judge's Choice, Thomas Theos, Ram -

Range Fleece Best in Show Youth, Thomas Theos, Ram - Range Fleece Wool Fleece, Best in Show Adult: Renae Neilson with Ewe-Farm Flock Fleece Champion Youth, Brooke Cox, Ram - Farm Flock Fleece Reserve Youth, Haley Cox, Ewe - Farm Flock Fleece Champion Adult, Renae Neilson, Ewe- Farm Flock Fleece Reserve Adult, PaulNeilson, Ram - Farm Flock Fleece

Coloring Contest, Best in Catagory Age 0-4, Addison Ahrens, Best in Catagory Age 5-9, Elsa Grant, Best in Catagory Age10-14, (no entries), Best in Catagory Age 15-18, Dawn Arnold, Best in Catagory Adult, Melissa Bak, 2026 Coloring Design, Black Tie A-Fair, Mary England,

4-H EVENTS

Cake Decorating Contest, Unit 1 Jr Champion, Addisen Shults, Unit 1 Jr Reserve, Makylee Kilduff, Unit 2 Jr Champion, Ellie Rundberg, Fashion Revue, Unit 1 Jr First, Whitney Carroll, Unit 1 Jr Second, Lee Kirkpatrick, STEAM 1 Int First , Cambrey Rogers, Creative Sewing Sr First, Cienna Rogers, Artistic Clothing Int First, Cambrey Rogers, Senior Cambrey Rogers will be attending State Fair

County Shoot Jr Air Rifle Champion, Dustin Ward, Jr Air Rifle Reserve, Blake Smith, Sr Air Rifle Champion, Joslin Spieth, Sr Air Rifle Reserve, Jill Ward,

Jr Air Pistol Champion, Blake Smith, Jr Air Pistol Reserve, Dustin Ward, Sr Air Pistol Champion, Liam Olson, Sr Air Pistol Reserve, Jill Ward,

Jr Archery Champion, Hudson Hummel, Jr Archery Reserve, Sawyer Hummel, Sr Archery Champion, Dawn Arnold, Sr Archery Reserve, Taylor Kirkpatrick,

Jr .22 Champion, Jacob Olson, Jr .22 Reserve, Ally Black, Sr .22 Champion, Liam Olson, Sr .22 Reserve, Luke Olson,

Jr Shotgun/Trap Champion, Brennon LeBleu, Jr Shotgun/Trap Reserve, Ace Behunin, Sr Shotgun/Trap Champion, Matthew Morgan, Sr Shotgun/Trap Reserve, Gage Nielsen,

General (Indoor) Projects, Over All Natural Resources, Liam Olson, Shooting Sports Over All Arts, Family, STEM, Personal Development, Melody Miller, Home Design Grand Champion, Liam Olson, Shooting Sports Reserve Champion, Waylyn Tuck, Etomology

PUZZLES

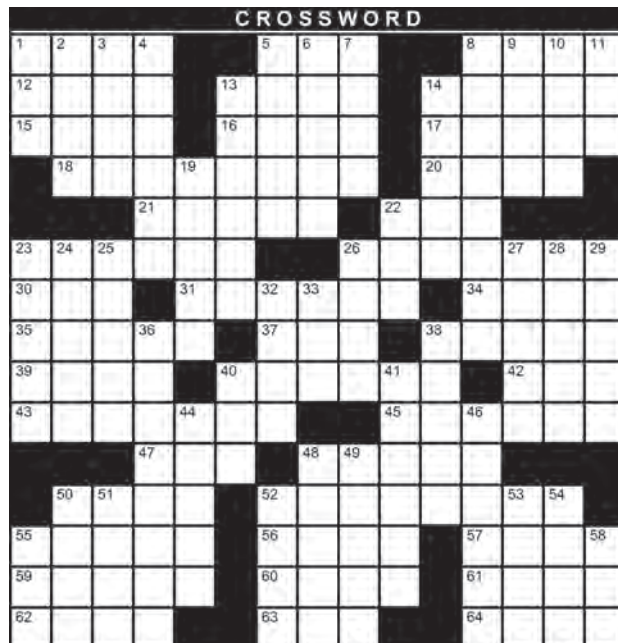
THEME: BACK TO SCHOOL

ACROSS

1. *Report _____
5. One on the beat
8. Put on the payroll
12. Fan sound
13. Buckeye State
14. Indy entrant
15. Table mountain
16. 2021 movie "The Harder They _____"
17. Carry away, in a way
18. * _____ Readers
20. Weary walk
21. Basketry stick
22. * _____ time for preschoolers
23. Plums and cherries genus
26. Allegiance
30. Crew propeller
31. Rh in Rh disease
34. Your majesty
35. Miss of the Muppets
37. Band event
38. Ascii, sing.
39. Olympic castaway
40. *Didn't fail
42. Frozen H2O
43. Took a penny-farthing, e.g.
45. *Punctuation marks for famous words
47. Maltese or Havanese, e.g.
48. *Use Play-Doh
50. Cheap trinket
52. *3+x=10, e.g.
55. Soviet place of exile
56. Curtis, to friends
57. Beehive state
59. *Olden-day notebook
60. Honey-producing facility
61. Sushi restaurant soup
62. Location of altar
63. Type of poem
64. Sing like Ella Fitzgerald

DOWN

1. Mountain basin
2. Attention grabber
3. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
4. Hiccup's Toothless, e.g.,
5. Irritate by rubbing
6. Persian Gulf ship
7. Multi-
8. "Get out of classroom" permit (2 words)
9. International Civil Aviation Organization
10. Retired, shortened
11. Bard's before
13. Lacking cordiality
14. Settle a debt
19. Unethical loaner's practice
22. Us, in Mexico
23. Temporary store
24. Reason to strike
25. Prodded
26. Totes or tugs
27. Permissible
28. Cease-fire
29. Many affirmatives
32. "Good grief!"
33. Bro's counterpart
36. *School alum
38. Next step for juvenile
40. Margaret, for short
41. Describe as similar
44. Elks' hangout
46. Poppy derivative, pl.
48. Marine cephalopod
49. *Grading arch
50. Big one at 7-Eleven
51. Regrettably, exclamation
52. Sound reflection
53. Auditory
54. U.S. space agency, acr.
55. Geological Society of America
58. *Van Halen's " _____ for Teacher"



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

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

DAYS GONE BY

MEEKER HERALD ~ 125 YEARS AGO

With this issue the Herald enters its 16th year.

W.F. Hossack has been appointed a forest ranger. A good appointment.

A hypocrite is a man who, in trying to fool others, fools himself.

Campaign documents prove the untruthfulness of the adage, "Figures cannot lie."

MEEKER HERALD ~ 100 YEARS AGO

40 years ago today the Meeker Herald was founded by the late James Lytle. In the intervening space of time nearly three thousand issues of the Herald have made their appearance without missing a single issue. It was the ambition of the late Editor and Publisher to make it an even forty years at the helm. He lost by ten weeks of achieving the forty year mark but never in the forty years did he lose faith in the future of this country.

A tarantula was on exhibition in the Commercial Club window this week in a glass jar and was a curiosity to many. The comments on this overgrown spider were varied: some contending that its sting was incurable, while others maintained that the effects of its bite was about the same as that of a wasp. No one expressed a desire to take it home as a pet for the children.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 75 YEARS AGO

The grand and glorious news "that the war [WWII] was over" reached Meeker shortly after five o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

This week marks the start of the 61st year for the Meeker Herald, the second oldest newspaper in Northwestern Colorado

and the only paper in Western Colorado which is operated by the same family which started the paper.

A cabin or bunk house on the Milo Love ranch on Piceance Creek was totally destroyed by fire shortly before noon last Saturday. It was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harrington, who are working on the ranch. It was newly built and decorated and they had moved in only the week before.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 50 YEARS AGO

Mrs. David (Judy) Eskelson, the new Director of Nurses at Pioneers Hospital, is not a newcomer to Meeker, as she is a graduate of Meeker High School. Mrs. Eskelson is an RN with an Associate Degree in Nursing received from Mesa College in Grand Junction in June of '71.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 25 YEARS AGO

Fleet manager for Rio Blanco County, Dave Overton, and County Commissioner Don Davis returned from Teller County with a fat check to build a new county shop. In fact it was a \$420,000 check.

Residents of Circle N trailer park at Ninth and Water were without water Friday night and most of Saturday due to a broken water pipe.

RANGELY TIMES ~ 50 YEARS AGO

At the Twin Cinema theater in Vernal: "JAWS"

Local participants in the cheerleading clinic are: Rhonda Pennell, Kathy Klements, Brenda Hatch, Janalee Nickson, Alisa Warren and Gail Newton, LeAnn Seebaum, Beth Hayes, Valerie Bock, Brenda LeBleu, Patti Eddy and Debbie Hazlewood.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**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

**PAYROLL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
TOWN OF MEEKER 7/31/2025
GENERAL FUND**
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$65,290.95
CRA, Employee Retirement - Police Dept,
\$3,982.32
CRA, Employee Retirement, \$7,920.48
CRA, Employee Loan Payments, \$650.93
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life
Insurance, \$25,103.92
Employee Withholding, Federal
Withholding, \$7,789.03
Employee Withholding, State Withholding,
\$3,393.92
Employee Withholding, Medicare
Withholding, \$2,492.42
Employee Withholding, Social Security
Withholding, \$6,281.42
Standard Insurance Company, Life/AD&D
Insurance, \$979.41
Washington National Ins Co, Cancer
Insurance, \$53.49
All Copy, July Copier Lease; Konica Svc,
\$393.93
AT&T, July Cell Svc, \$720.62
Atmos, July Natural Gas, \$281.86
Bolton Construction, Circle Park
Improvements, \$44,355.00
CIRSA, Auto Deductible, \$1,000.00
Family Automotive, Surge Tank
Replacement - Unit 223, \$343.73
Herald Times, Legal Publications; Annual
Subscription - Twin Hall, \$402.00
MAMBA, Board Aprvd Donation, \$1,200.00
Meeker Parts City, Antifrz / PD; Battery &
Connector, Oil & Filters, Air Freshnr, Wpr
Fluid / PW, \$366.76
Patriot Diamond Inc, Saw Blades,
\$1,175.00 RBC Weed & Pest Dept,
Chemicals, \$4,748.44
Ridgeway, Beth, Reimburse - Mileage (PRI
Conf), \$341.60
Vet Clinic, Spay/Neuter Program, \$200.00
X Field Services, Circle Park - Vault Toilet,
\$4,414.00
Abila*, Remote Trng, \$62.50
Alisco*, July Coveralls, \$35.42
Column*, July Legal Publications, \$85.01
CPPA*, 2025 Legal Defense Plan, Annual
Dues, Pocket Book Pstg / PD, \$1,807.58
FBI-Leeda*, CLI Class - Yates, \$795.00
Ferguson*, Circle Park - Irrg Pump,
\$3,950.00
MGM*, K-9 Food / PD; Gloves / PW, \$174.0
0 Muxlow, Bow*, Reimburse - Work Boots,
\$183.52
MVB Visa*, Phone; Nmplt / BOT; Plnrs,
Cindrs, Fldrs / MC; Bldg Offical Trng / CD;
Range Call Meals/Supp, DRE Trng - Long,
K-9 Trng, Coroners Conf, Tactical Gear,
Sights, Saddles, Thermal Ppr, Shpg / PD;
Cloud Strg / AS; Concrete Rakes, Ear
Plugs, Sfty Vests / PW, \$5,010.01
Olaszewski & Massih PC*, July Legal Fees,
\$2,439.00
Overton Recycling*, July Trash Svc,
\$242.00
RBC Fleet Management*, July Fuel,
\$1,497.31
RMR*, July Claims, \$1,739.14
Samuelson's*, Primer / BLD; Sprinkler / PK;
Asphalt Rake, Plug / PW, \$134.61
Tolin Mechanical*, Bi-Annual Maint Fee -
Twn Hall HVAC, \$2,970.00
Valley Hardware*, Cable Ties / PD; Clng
Supt, Dct Tape, Trshbgs / AS; Trshbgs,
Cable Ties, Key Schlage, Tape Measure /
PW, \$137.67
WREA*, July Electric, \$3,718.83
Your Parts Haus*, Sprinkler Belts / PK;
Press Wshr Connector, Brake Parts Clnr &
Brushes / PW, \$220.40
Alisco, June Coveralls, \$23.61
AT&T, June Cell Svc, \$720.65
Boyko, TP, Paper Towels, \$129.65
Century Link, June Phone Svc, \$272.32
CMRS, Reimb June Pstg, \$48.58
Edwards, Jay, July Muni Judge Svc,
\$200.00
GEI Consultants, Cir Prk & Wht Rvr
Construction Support, \$545.81
Meeker Chamber, Banners & Flags,
\$4,211.58
Mountain Cross Engineering, Sanderson
Access Rd, \$165.94
MVB Visa, Phone, Paper, Binders; Gift /
BOT; ICC Memb / CD; Food Bins - Shltr,
Boots - Hetzel, Meals, Lodging, Fuel -
CCRN & CACP Conf, Bumper / PD; Supt
Advt, CDL Tests - Bourge, Paint Tank / PW,
\$4,426.94
Networking of the Rockies, July IT Support;
PC's x 10, \$17,500.00
Overton Recycling, June Trash Svc,
\$105.00
Pitney Bowes, June/July/Aug Pstg Mtr
Rental, \$105.91 RBC ICT, July Internet
Svc, \$164.00

RBC Sheriff's Dept, 3rd Qtr Dispatch Svc,
\$11,250.00
TransUnion, June TLO Membership, \$75.00
VRC, July Document Destruction, \$106.76
Watt's, Coffee, Ice, Litter & Clng Supp -
Shltr / PD, \$39.23
X Field Services, Circle Park Riverfront
Project, \$19,889.47
Meeker Embroidery*, Caps & Patches /
CSO, \$47.50
RBC Sales & Use Tax*, July Sales Tax Adj,
\$12,624.76
RMR*, July Admin Fee, \$74.10
WR Distributing*, Bottled Water, \$38.75
Total General Fund, \$320,848.79
WATER FUND Town of Meeker, Payroll,
\$13,324.08 CRA, Employee Retirement,
\$2,181.04
CRA, Employee Loans, \$421.34 CEBT,
Health, Dental, Vision & Life Insurance,
\$6,048.03
Employee Withholding, Social Security
Withholding, \$2,258.46
Employee Withholding, Medicare
Withholding, \$543.10
Employee Withholding, Federal
Withholding, \$481.01
Employee Withholding, State Withholding,
\$332.56
Standard Insurance Company, Life/AD&D
Insurance, \$261.01
Washington National Ins Co, Cancer
Insurance, \$79.86
US Postmaster, Water Billing Postage,
\$316.55
All Copy, July Copier Lease, \$76.64
AT&T, July Cell Svc, \$69.89
Atmos, July Natural Gas, \$42.24
CDPHE, Drinking Wtr Fee, \$350.00
Ferguson, N360 Renewal; Saddle Taps,
Flares, Unions, Gaskets, \$5,118.81
Herald Times, Legal Publications, \$112.00
Kumar & Associates, Garfield St Wtr Line -
Soils Testing, \$1,407.50
Meeker Parts City, Air Freshnr, Wpr Fluid,
Ear Plugs, Clng Brsh, Oil & Filters, Hose
Clamps, \$197.82
Pipestone Equipment, Loadout Repair Kit,
\$305.00
Timberline Electric, Programming Support -
Chlorinator/Remote Access, \$1,430.00
Town of Rangely, Wtr Sample Tests,
\$104.00
UPS, Wtr Sample Shipping, \$19.21
West Elk Supply, Chlorine, \$1,744.00
Alisco*, July Coveralls, \$35.41
Column*, July Legal Publications, \$28.94
CRC*, GSWL - App 4, \$580,243.55
MVB Visa*, Phone; Laptop Cases, Mkrks,
Wtr Class/Test - Cox, Nielsen, DOT Phys -
Kilduff, \$494.14
Olaszewski & Massih PC*, July Legal Fees,
\$2,439.00
RBC Fleet Management*, July Fuel,
\$285.49
RMR*, July Claims, \$519.48
Samuelson's*, Plug, Saw Blades, Dvr Nut,
Weed Spray, \$81.61
SGS*, Wtr Tests, \$329.00
UNCC*, July Line Locates, \$65.19
Valley Hardware*, Cable Ties, Key Schlage,
Tape Measure, Poly Tube, Sprinklers,
\$117.84
West Elk Supply*, Chlorine, \$1,744.00
WREA*, July Electric, \$6,689.58
Your Parts Haus*, Brake Parts Clnr &
Brushes, \$30.43
Alisco, June Coveralls, \$23.61
AT&T, June Cell Svc, \$63.69
Century Link, June Phone Svc, \$20.73
CMRS, Reimb June Pstg, \$192.51
Ferguson, Garfield St Wtr Line Parts,
\$1,382.15
Mountain Cross Engineering, Garfield St
Wtr Line / Dvrns Easement / Flouridation
Syst, \$3,145.00
MVB Visa, Phone, Paper, Binders; Wtr
Class & Lodging - Nielson, Cox, \$789.04
Pitney Bowes, June/July/Aug Pstg Mtr
Rental, \$76.70
RBC ICT, July Internet Svc, \$36.00
TDA Construction, Waterline Replacement
Asst, \$700.00
VRC, July Document Destruction, \$21.35
Watt's, Coffee, Ice, Wtr Lk Drmks, \$22.45
RMR*, July Admin Fee, \$15.90
Total Water Fund, \$636,816.94
Total All Funds, \$957,665.73
Published: August 14, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**PUBLIC NOTICE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY,
COLORADO HEARING**
Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday,
September 9, 2025 the Rio Blanco County
Board of County Commissioners will hold a
public hearing beginning at 9:00 a.m. in
the Rio Blanco County Courthouse, 555
Main Street, Meeker, Colorado to consider
the following:
PLIR-0001-25 Olmsted ADU. The
applicants are proposing to build a second
residence on a 757 acre parcel of land.
The property is located at 201 CR 32A,
Meeker Colorado, lying Within Section 13,
14, 23 & 24, T1N, R95W, 6th P.M.
Copies of the documents may be obtained
from the Rio Blanco County Planning
Department at 555 Main Street in Meeker,
Colorado, or you may call (970) 878-9510
for more information between the hours of
8:00 am and 5:00 pm.
Published: August 14, 21, 28 and
September 4, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**2025 RIO BLANCO COUNTY
PAVEMENT MARKING PAINT PROJECT
INVITATION FOR BID**
PROJECT NAME, LOCATION AND
GENERAL
SCOPE OF WORK:
2025 Rio Blanco County Pavement Marking
Paint Project includes providing and
installing approximately 3,267 gallons of
Pavement Marking Paint: Approximately
2,095 gallons of yellow pavement marking
paint with beads for the centerline and
approximately 1,172 gallons of white
pavement marking paint with beads for the
shoulder lines on various roads throughout
the county.
CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:
All bid information and contract documents
are available on-line at www.bidnetdirect.com/rio-blanco-county
PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT AND
QUESTIONS: Clint Chappell, Road and
Bridge Coordinator, (970) 878-9590, email:
clint.chappell@rbc.us
WORK SCHEDULE:
The planned start date is September 15,
2025 to be completed by October 3, 2025
pending delays due to adverse conditions.
MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING:
Contractors are to attend the Mandatory
pre-bid meeting on August 28, 2025 at 10
00 A.M. at 570 2nd Street Meeker, Colorado
81641
TITLE VI COMMITMENT:
Rio Blanco County, in accordance with
the provisions of Title VI of the Civil
Rights Act of 1964 and the Regulations,
hereby notifies all bidders that it will
affirmatively ensure that any contract
entered into pursuant to this advertisement,
disadvantaged business enterprises will
be afforded full and fair opportunity to
submit bids in response to this invitation
and will not be discriminated against on the
grounds of race, color or national origin in
consideration for an award
RIO BLANCO COUNTY COLORADO
Dated: August 14, 2025
By Jennifer O'Hearon, Chairman
Published: August 14 and 21, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR
MEETING**
555 Garfield Street
Meeker, CO 81641
Monday, August 18, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.
Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/zid-vtqp-vwe>
1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Theos will lead
the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Welcome of Guests
4. Approval of Agenda
District Celebrations:
Student Celebrations:
Staff Recognition:
General Public Comment Session:
(comments limited to three minutes)
Public/Committee Reports: DAC, MEF,
BOCES/SAC, DLT, Employee County
Principal Reports: n/a
Superintendent Report: 20250818 Board
Meeting Report
Consent Agenda:
1. Approval: Minutes from Regular Board
Meeting on June 23, 2025
2. Approval: Minutes from Special Board
Meeting on July 21, 2025
3. Acceptance: Financial Reports and
Check Vouchers for June 2025 and July
2025
4. Approval: June 30, 2025 Quarterly
Financial Report
Action Items:
1. Personnel:
a. Approval: Amanda Back - Volunteer
Coach (MHS Boys Golf)
b. Approval: 2025-2026 Certified and
Classified Substitutes
2. Approval: 2025-2026 Meeker School
District Student Fees
3. Approval: Meeker School District
Emergency Operations Plan
4. Approval: Meeker School District
Strategic Vision
Other BOE Information:
1. Policy Discussion (1st Reading) -
20250818 Policy Update - Recommended
by CASB
2. 2025 School Board Election (Policy
BBBA)
3. Finance - FY25 Budget vs. Actual (Policy
Group DB)
4. Assessments (Policy IK)
a. Annual Assessment Data Report
b. School and District Performance
Frameworks
5. School Board Best Practices (Policy
BBA)
a. Meeker BOE self evaluation form
b. BOE discussion/training topics
6. Community Survey Action Plan (Policy
KCB & ADA)
Executive Session (if needed):
Adjournment:
Published: August 14, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

**TOWN OF RANGELY
CHECK REGISTER JULY-25**
NAME, AMOUNT, DESCRIPTION
AFLAC, 254.51, Payroll Deduction
ALEXANDER CLARK PRINTING, 783.69,
Expenses

ALL COPY, 1192.16, Expenses
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, 240.01,
Expenses
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSN,
431.00, Expenses
ANDRE, AUBREE, 210.00, Expenses
AT&T MOBILITY, 200.20, Communication
AV-TECH, 701.25, Expenses
AXON ENTERPRISE INC, 112.75,
Expenses
BIG D'S PUMPING INC, 85.11, Expenses
BIG STATE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY INC,
918.13, Expenses
BOLTON CONSTRUCTION LLC,
120887.50, Expenses
BOY-KO SUPPLY CO, 283.12, Expenses
BURR, BRADLEY, 40.00, Expenses
CALDWELL, JEANNIE, 40.00, Expenses
CANNON LAW OFFICE, 350.00, Attorney
CANYON PINTADO VETERINARY
CLINIC, 2310.41, Services
CASELLE INC, 1771.00, Software Support
CASKEY, BRETT, 188.16, Expenses
CEBT, 45628.31, Health Insurance
CENTRYLINK, 1463.39, Communication
CF INVESTORS PARTNERSHIP LLP,
3864.18, Expenses
CIMARRON TELECOMMUNICATIONS
LLC, 165.00, Communication
CIRSA, 32882.08, Expenses
COLOCPA SERVICES PC, 12670.00,
Expenses
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC, 107.67,
Expenses
COX, MARYBEL, 40.00, Expenses
DIRECTV, 547.50, WRV Expenses
DOTSON, KEVIN, 3333.34, Colo Welcome
Center Mngr
DUCEY'S ELECTRIC, 1298.60, Expenses
E & E DOOR & WINDOW INC, 730.00,
Expenses
ELAM, ROBERT, 200.00, Council Stipend
EMPOWER RETIREMENT LLC, 34784.82,
Payroll Deduction
FARIS MACHINERY COMPANY, 1761.74,
Expenses
FASTENAL COMPANY, 273.98, Expenses
FEDERAL EXPRESS, 221.87, Expenses
FILFRED, CHLOE, 150.00, Expenses
FIRST BANKCARD, 4157.37, Expenses
FIRST STRING LLC, 1260.00, Expenses
FPPA, 1761.33, PD Insurance
GALLS, 56.99, Expenses
GLOBAL CHEMICALS, 8283.56, Expenses
GRANGER, RONALD, 300.00, Council
Stipend
GRANITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS,
704.13, Communication
HACH, 549.89, Expenses
HAMBLIN, TIRYNN, 40.00, Expenses
JOHNSON GARAGE LLC, 99.06,
Expenses
JUSTUS, LOGAN, 89.00, Expenses
MAIL SERVICES, 874.25, Expenses
MOON LAKE ELECTRIC ASSN, 23328.67,
Electricity
MORGAN, MICHAEL SHAWN, 200.00,
Council Stipend
MULLEN, JOCELYN, 40.00, Expenses
NETWORKS UNLOCATED INC, 3365.32,
Support/Services
NICHOLS STORE, 167.70, Expenses
ORKIN PEST CONTROL, 110.00,
Expenses
PARKLAND USA CORP, 2198.33, Diesel
PINE COUNTRY INC, 14108.50, Expenses
PINNACOL ASSURANCE, 2521.00,
Insurance
PIPELINE TESTING CONFORTIUM,
170.00, Expenses
PROFESSIONAL TOUCH OF NWCO LLC,
1532.88, Expenses
PURCHASE POWER, 327.00, Postage
QUILL CORPORATION, 210.60, Expenses
RANGELY AUTO PARTS & SUPPLY,
1282.57, Expenses
RANGELY COLLISION CENTER LLC,
38307.60, Rare Grant
RANGELY CONOCO, 442.59, Fuel
RANGELY DISTRICT HOSPITAL, 403.00,
Expenses
RANGELY ELKS LODGE 1907, 150.00,
Expenses
RANGELY HARDWARE, 5665.55,
Expenses
RANGELY SCHOOL FOUNDATION INC,
18654.00, Sales Tax Funding
RANGELY TRASH SERVICE, 998.00,
Services
RANGELY, TOWN OF, 6605.24, Utilities
RIO BLANCO COUNTY, 22982.20,
Expenses
RIO BLANCO COUNTY FAIR BOARD,
1050.00, Expenses
RIVERRESTORATION ORG LLC, 2177.38,
Services
SBT INTERNET, 45.00, Internet Services
SCHEUSER GORDON MEYER INC,
1620.00, Services
SGS ACCUTEST INC, 796.00, Services
SHAFCOM, 219.96, Expenses
SHAFFER, ANDREW, 200.00, Council
Stipend
STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANIES,
860.59, Life Insurance
SUMMIT ENERGY LLC, 5,334.85, Gas
Transmission/Transport
SYNTECH SYSTEMS, 241.50, Expenses
THAYN, TODD, 200.00, Council Stipend
TIMBER LINE ELECTRIC & CONTROL,
4440.30, Expenses
TRANSLATION RISK & ALTERNATIVE,
130.60, Services
UTE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT,
80.00, Services
VAN DIEST SUPPLY COMPANY, 4320.00,
Expenses

VERIZON WIRELESS, 925.38,
Communication
VERNAL WINNELSON CO, 620.51,
Expenses
VESTIS, 112.91, Expenses
WEBBER, TIMOTHY, 200.00, Council
Stipend
WEX BANK, 7347.62, Fuel
WHITE RIVER MARKET, 719.07,
Expenses
WILCZEK, TERI & VANCE, 269.31,
Expenses
WRB REC & PARK DISTRICT, 10157.50,
Expenses
WREN, KYLE, 200.00, Council Stipend

ZERMENO, ALEJANDRO, 194.90,
Expenses
TOTAL 475,431.19
Published: August 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

**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 described 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 ELCETRONIC 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 in-
terest 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 CURRENT-
LY ENCOMBERED 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 indebt-
edness 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 FORE-
CLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES
PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLO-
SURE. 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 STAT-
UTES 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 SEC-
TION 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

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 6, COLORADO TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN WATER DIVISION 6

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are hereby notified that the following pages comprise a resume of Applications and Amended Applications filed in the office of Water Division 6, during the month of **July 2025**.

2025CW3023 (2018CW3048) Rio Blanco County. APPLICATION TO MAKE WATER RIGHT ABSOLUTE OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE FOR A FINDING OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE. 1. Name, mailing address, email and telephone number of applicant: Collins Mountain Ranch, LLC, c/o Tim Collins, 100 S. University Blvd. Unit 3, Denver, CO 80209, Email: t.collins320@comcast.net. Direct all pleadings to Andrea L. Benson and Gilbert Y. Marchand, Jr., Alperstein & Covell P.C., 2299 Pearl Street, Suite 400-C, Boulder, CO 80302. 2. Name of Structure: Stack Yard Ditch. 3. Description of conditional water right, with required information from the prior decree: Original decree: Dated December 16, 2019, Case No. 18CW3048, Water Court, Water Division 6 ("Original Decree"). This is the first diligence application filed for the subject water right. 4. Legal Description: From the west side of the Stack Yard Pond embankment (WDID 4303298), the point of diversion for the Stack Yard Ditch is described in UTM coordinates (NAD 83, Zone 13) as follows: Easting 254776, Northing 4431156. This point of diversion is located in Section 6, T. 1 South, R. 93 West of the 6th P.M. in Rio Blanco County, and is shown on Exhibit A. 5. Source: Evans Gulch, tributary to the White River. 6. Information Regarding Appropriation. A. Date of Appropriation: August 18, 1988. B. How appropriation was initiated: Diversion and operation of the Stack Yard Ditch from Stack Yard Pond; use of Stack Yard Ditch for irrigation. C. Date water applied to beneficial use: August 18, 1988. 6. Amount (cfs): 1.5 cfs conditional. 7. Uses: Irrigation and stock watering. A. Number of acres historically irrigated: 57.8 acres. The extent and location of irrigation is shown on Exhibit A. Legal description of irrigated acreage. The irrigated land is located in the center of Section 6, Township 1 South, Range 93 West, on the Collins Mountain Ranch. [See Exhibit A.] B Non-irrigation uses: Livestock watering. 8. Detailed outline of what has been done toward completions or for completion of the appropriations and application of water to beneficial use as conditionally decreed, including expenditures: As confirmed in the Original Decree, the Stack Yard Ditch water right is part of Applicant's integrated water supply system that provides legal, reliable water supplies to support Applicant's irrigation, livestock watering, and wildlife habitat on the Collins Mountain Ranch properties, some of which are subject to a conservation easement, and all of which are managed together to meet the goals of the conservation easement. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(b), when an integrated system is composed of several features, as is the case here, work on one feature of the system is considered in finding that reasonable diligence has been shown in the development of water rights for all features of the entire system. During this diligence period, Applicant has operated the Stack Yard Ditch water right, installed, cleaned and maintained the water system infrastructure related to the ditch and other water rights in the integrated system, including ponds, stock tank and trough, and measuring devices. In addition, during this diligence period, Applicant has expended in excess of \$20,000 in legal fees and costs to confirm, maintain and protect Applicant's water rights by obtaining decrees for diligence for other water rights owned by Applicant and by participating as an opposer in water rights applications filed by others in order to protect its water rights. Applicant has also expended in excess of \$23,000 in legal fees related to its negotiations with the National Resource Conservation Service ("NRCS") and engineering fees and construction costs during this diligence period to operate, measure, protect and maintain its water rights. 9. Claim to Make Absolute. During the diligence period, Applicant diverted the Stack Yard Ditch water right in priority and placed it to beneficial use, as follows: A. Date water applied to beneficial use: On or about May 13, 2023. B. Amount: 1.5 cfs. The Stack Yard Ditch diverted at a rate of 2.97 cfs on or about May 13, 2023; however, since this water right is decreed only for 1.5 cfs, Applicant only seeks to make 1.5 cfs absolute herein. C. Use: All uses described in Paragraph 7 above (irrigation and stockwatering). D. Description of place of use: Land described in Paragraph 7 above. A picture taken on or about May 13, 2023, showing the Parshall Flume reading for the Stack Yard Ditch water right at 0.98 head (feet) which equates to a flow rate of 2.97 cfs is attached as Exhibit B. The Division Engineer's diversion records for May, 2023, only show a diversion rate of 0.62 cfs for that day, attached as Exhibit C. However, as shown in the attached photo, the diversion rate was as high as 2.97 cfs that day. Therefore, Applicant seeks herein to make the entire 1.5 cfs absolute. Name and address of owner of land: Applicant.

The water right claimed by this application may affect in priority any water right claimed or heretofore adjudicated within this division and owners of affected rights must appear to object and protest within the time provided by statute, or be forever barred.

You are hereby notified that you will have until the last day of **September 2025** to file with the Water Court a Verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain Application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must be served on the Applicant or the Applicant's Attorney, with an affidavit or certificate of such service being filed with the Water Court, as prescribed by Rule 5, C.R.C.P. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00, and should be sent to the Clerk of the Water Court, Division 6, 1955 Shield Dr. Unit 200, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487.

CARMMA L PARKINSON
CLERK OF COURT
ROUTT COUNTY COMBINED COURT
WATER DIVISION 6

/s/ Carmma L. Parkinson
Clerk of Court

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF MEEKER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 2.08.020 of the Meeker Town Code, that on Tuesday, August 19th 2023 at 5:30 p.m., the annual joint meeting between the Board of Trustees and the ERBM Recreation & Parks District Board of Directors will take place as a Workshop

Session at Town Hall, 345 Market St., Meeker, CO 81641. This workshop will include discussion regarding the lease agreement for town parks. Published: August 14, 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


TOWN OF MEEKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, August 19, 2025 7:00 P.M. - Town Hall 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO Prior to the regular meeting, Board will meet at 5:30 pm in workshop session with ERBM Recreation and Park District Board of Directors for the annual joint meeting to

discuss the parks lease agreement Call-in number: 970-878-8091
I. Call to Order
a. Pledge of Allegiance
b. Roll Call
II. Approval of the Agenda
III. Approval of the Previous Minutes
IV. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
V. Public Participation
VI. Staff Updates
a. Public Works
b. Police
c. Community Development/Planning
d. Town Clerk
e. Town Attorney
VII. New Business
VIII. Manager's Report
IX. Mayor's Remarks
X. Other Board Business
XI. Adjournment
Published: August 14, 2025 Rio Blanco Herald Times

CLASSIFIEDS

- HELP WANTED
- HELP WANTED
- HELP WANTED
- HELP WANTED
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PUBLIC SERVICE



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 and at Town Hall, 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO. For more information call 878-5344. EEO.



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)
Licensure: 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-Employment Opportunities-Certified Application. Submit certified application/cover letter, transcripts and letters of recommendation to brad.bauer@meeker.k12.co.us and jessica.fortunato@rangelyk12.org.

This vacancy is open until filled.

Visit our website for vacancy details & application process: www.rioblancoboces.org/page/employment



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, 970-878-9570.
The Application can be found at the rbc.us website under Elected Offices & Boards.
• Fair Board

Help Wanted
Maintenance Assistant at Nix Shop. Join our team! Flexible schedule, driver's license required, pay dependent on experience, training and certifications available while working. Apply in person: 246 Market Street

We are hiring!
Join the team at the Meeker Public Library as a Library Assistant! This is a part-time position. Please go to our website meek-erlibrary.org or stop in the library for an application. Applications will be accepted through the 26th.

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.


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

RENTALS: MEEKER

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

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.



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=prorated benefits
NB=Colorado sick leave accruals only
Please visit www.rbc.us or Rio Blanco County Human Resources at 555 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Meeker, CO. 970-878-9570 ADA/EOE

PIONEERS MEDICAL CENTER
With the growth of Pioneers Medical Center and Colorado Advanced Othopedics 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



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

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

FOR SALE

FOR SALE NEW Mihayo Scooter \$550
Perfect for in-town shopping
Call for appointment to view 970 878-6167



YARD SALES

610 Garfield St (Meeker). Boutique garage sale. Home decor, books, jewelry, women's clothing Lg-3X some new with tags. Fri-Sat, Aug 15-16, 9am-3pm.

#31 Large 1BDR/1BA apartment and #30 1BDR/1BA apartment available at 908 Market St. To view call 970-220-2150. Apply at gjmchp@gmail.com.

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.

ELDER CARE

★★★★★
Western Slope In-Home Care
www.westernslopehomecare.com
970-878-7008

"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

AUCTIONS



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:
rtclaypooleauction.com
Call Tanner w/ questions: 970-756-9353

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
ERBM Recreation & Park District | 970.878.3403
erbmrec.com | @erbmrec

CARD	COP	HIRE	2	1	4	3	9	8	5	6	7
WHIR	OHIO	RACER	9	7	8	6	1	5	4	2	3
MESA	FALL	ELATE	6	5	3	2	7	4	1	9	8
MC	GUFFEY	PLIOD	8	6	1	5	3	7	2	4	9
	OSTER	NAP	4	9	7	8	2	1	3	5	6
PRUNUS	LOYALTY		5	3	2	9	4	6	7	8	1
OAR	RHESUS	SIRE	1	8	9	4	5	3	6	7	2
PIGGY	GIG	ASCUS	7	2	5	1	6	9	8	3	4
USER	PASSED	ICE	3	4	6	7	8	2	9	1	5
PEDALED	QUOTES		1	8	9	4	5	3	6	7	2
	DOG	SCULP	7	2	5	1	6	9	8	3	4
GAUD	EQUATION		3	4	6	7	8	2	9	1	5
GULAG	CURT	UTAH									
SLATE	HIVE	MISO									
APSE	ODE	SCAT									

REAL ESTATE CORNER

Celebrating 24 Years - Same office, Same Location!
BROOKS REALTY
889 Main St., Meeker, Colorado
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!

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 1978.7 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, plus separate 2BD | 1BA | 880 SF house. Reduced!.....\$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 & 3/168 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

1135 Michael Circle
Alex Plumb Owner/Broker
sold@alexplumb.realtor • 970.420.8076
Lori Plumb Associate Broker
lori.alpinewest@gmail.com • 970.620.2233
643 Main Street, Meeker

NEW LISTING

1018 EAST AVENUE, RIFLE \$443,118

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 2BLM, 3BD/2BA home with outbuildings... PENDING \$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
RIFLE: 1018 East Avenue: Creekside 1,920 sqft, 3BD/3.5BA townhome with garage..... NEW! \$443,118
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 South Fork Valley..... \$393,000
MEEKER: 267 6th Street: 1,450 sqft downtown commercial building, private offices, conference room, breakroom, 2BA..... \$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 | 600 Main Street, Meeker, CO

STREAMLINE REALTY LLC