



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

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BACK TO SCHOOL!



These Meeker Elementary School students were all smiles at the end of the first day of the 2025-26 school year on Monday. JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Elk Fire 100% contained, Lee Fire at 68% New team took command Monday



The post-fire recovery process entails multiple entities and organizations, including White River Electric Association, which was out repairing power lines on the Lee Fire in Josephine Basin on Aug. 9. KATHLEEN KELLEY PHOTO

Breakfast stop leads Dr. Atwell to Barone Middle School principal role

By JARED HENDERSON
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A stop on the way through Meeker for breakfast serendipitously turned into a new opportunity for Dr. Debra Atwell, who brings more than 30 years experience in education to her new position as principal at Barone Middle School. JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

MEEKER | A summer road trip and a stop for breakfast at Wendll's for a 'Bodacious Breakfast Burrito' and coffee set the course for Barone Middle School's new principal, Dr. Debra Atwell.

While traveling through town with her husband, Roger, they visited with a local couple who shared their story about relocating to the area, the challenges and rewards they'd experienced. Barone Middle School seventh- and eighth-grade teacher Kris Casey mentioned a recent opening for a middle school principal in the district.

Having served in the role before, Atwell expressed interest. Casey quickly connected her with the district's administrative office, and a visit with Superintendent Chris Selle followed. After returning from vacation, she applied, interviewed and was offered the job.

"Dr. Debra Atwell brings over 30 years of experience in education, including 26 years as an administrator," Selle said. "We feel really fortunate that she found us, and we're excited about the stable leadership and expertise she brings to the middle school."

Cont. on P9

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

MEEKER | With the Elk Fire 100% contained, progress continues on the south side of the Lee Fire, with 68% containment as of press time Wednesday.

On Monday the Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Team 3 handed off command of the incident to the Northern Rockies Complex Incident Management Team 1.

The Elk Fire consumed 14,518 acres, while the Lee Fire is mapped at 137,755 acres, just a few hundred acres shy of the 2002 Hayman Fire near Colorado Springs, the fourth largest wildfire in Colorado history.

As of Wednesday, there

were 523 total personnel on the fires, with 28 engines, five helicopters, six hand crews, seven water tenders, and five dozers.

Crews will continue cleaning up remaining interior pockets of unburned fuel and increasing mop-up depth where possible along the fire lines. Focus this week will be on impacts caused by the firefighting efforts. Evacuation statuses are being lifted as deemed safe, and Highway 13 has been reopened north and southbound between Meeker and Rifle.

Warm dry weather over the next few days will continue to bring moderate to active fire behavior in unburned islands that will produce visible smoke columns.

Benny the St. Bernard finds a new home and new job

By NIKI TURNER
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MEEKER | His name is officially Benjamin, but he goes by Benny. This young St. Bernard was picked up as a dog-at-large in Meeker at the end of July, according to Community Service Officer Melissa Fellows, and subsequently relinquished to the Meeker Animal Shelter by his owner.

"He was in our care for a couple weeks," Fellows said. "He's a sweet dog." Benny, 112 pounds, made friends with a 20-pound terrier during his stay, going on walks with Benny carrying his smaller pal's leash.

On Wednesday, Aug. 14, an HR representative from the Forest Service, in town with the fire-fighting crews, visited with Fellows and asked what needs the shelter

had. The rep replaced batteries in bark collars for the three evacuated dogs at the shelter and met Benny. On Thursday she called to tell Fellows she'd talked to her family about adopting Benny, and then called back to say her commander at the fire camp told her to bring Benny to the incident command center at the Fairgrounds.

"He was a celebrity instantly," Fellows said. By Thursday evening, Benny the St. Bernard had been deemed the official Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Team 3 mascot. He knows basic commands already, but will go through additional training to serve as an emotional support animal, traveling to fire camps with the team.

Benny's terrier friend was adopted by a couple from Grand Junction who drove over Douglas Pass through Rangely to get to



Benny, a young 112 lb. St. Bernard pup, was picked up by Meeker animal control for running at-large and relinquished by his owner at the end of July, was adopted by the Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Team 3. He'll receive additional training to be an emotional animal and travel to fire camps with the team. COURTESY PHOTO

Meeker. Fellows said donations to the animal shelter's spay/neuter and

vaccination program are greatly appreciated. She received a grant this year that was twice the usual

amount and has already used it up. "It's a community need," she said. Donations to the program

go to the local vet clinic and can be dropped off at Town Hall.



Commissioners limit grant funding to emergency requests, focus on fire recovery

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com

MEEKER | The Rio Blanco County Commissioners opened their regular meeting last Tuesday with a letter of thanks to firefighters, emergency responders and citizens “who have worked tirelessly to protect our community” during the Elk and Lee fires. (The full letter was published in last week’s edition of the Herald Times.)

Funding limited to emergencies

Facing financial uncertainties, the board voted to limit disbursement of County Capital Improvement Trust Funds, Commissioners’ Discretionary Grant Fund, and Use Tax

grant funding to emergency requests only.

“There’s too many unknowns right now,” said Commissioner Callie Scritchfield. Costs related to wildfire response, along with uncertainty about severance tax funding, PILT (payment-in-lieu-of-taxes) funds and SRS funds, led commissioners to agree that non-emergency grants will have to wait.

Scritchfield and Commissioner Doug Overton also noted the likelihood of long-term expenses, such as replacing miles of fencing along Highway 13.

Hazard mitigation, airport projects approved

In regular business,

the board approved a grant-funded contract with JEO Consulting to prepare a new hazard mitigation plan. Emergency Manager Doug Cupp said the county’s plan expired in March and must be renewed to qualify for funding.

Several Meeker Airport items were also approved, including right-of-way and easement agreements with Atmos Energy, an Airport Infrastructure Grant for GA ramp construction, and amendments to contracts for public health emergency preparedness and senior nutrition pro-



grams.

Events, letters, agreements

Contingent on fire conditions and fairgrounds availability, commissioners approved

liquor licenses for the rescheduled Meeker Mustang Makeover (Sept. 26–27) and the Meeker Classic Jammin’ Lamb Fest, which organizers announced this week has been canceled at this time.

The board ratified a letter of support for the BLM’s wild horse gather. “We are very hopeful that BLM will gather and remove all of our excess horses down to at least the upper AML this fall,”

Scritchfield said. A letter of comment on Colorado Parks and Wildlife’s draft state wildlife plan was also ratified.

Commissioners approved a modification to the White River National Forest agreement for noxious weed control, and an agreement with the Colorado Department of Homeland Security to establish disaster recovery data tracking. County Attorney Don Steerman stressed the importance of confidentiality while sharing survivor information with partner agencies.

Local property, precinct dissolved

The board authorized assigning a county-held lien on a Rangely property containing asbestos. Treasurer Rhonna Waldref

explained that the town has received grant funding for cleanup and abatement of the property.

Commissioners also approved dissolving Precinct 5 (Piceance Creek), moving voters into Precinct 3 at the request of residents.

Recognitions and updates

Road and Bridge Supervisor Clint Chappell praised employees for their firefighting support and reported on dust control options being tested on county roads. Commissioners also recognized fairgrounds staff and the CSU Extension office for their work during the county fair and for caring for evacuated livestock during the fire evacuations.

RIO HAPPENINGS: AUG 10-16, 2025

ARRESTS

8/18/2025- A 54 year-old male was arrested by Meeker PD for Felony Eluding, Criminal Attempt, First Degree Assault-Criminal Attempt, Reckless Driving, Driving Under the Influence, Failure to Maintain Lane, Domestic Violence, Third Degree Assault, Obstruction of a Telephone and Criminal Mischief. He was taken to jail and remains in custody.

CALL SUMMARIES

There were 25 traffic stops performed by deputies on Highway 13 due to the reduced speed limit to 50 mph.

8/13/2025 @ 7:32 pm. A concerned father contacted the Communications Center because his daughter was low on fuel and seemed to be lost between Rifle Gap and Meeker. With the assistance of her GPS coordinates, a deputy was able to locate her on Buford New Castle Road. A CPW officer also assisted, and together, they were able to provide her with fuel and ensure she arrived safely in Meeker.

8/14/2025 2 5:21 pm. A suspicious person on the 10th Street bridge...just trying to get that one profile pic that says “I survive on vibes and bad decisions.”

8/14/2025 @ 6:50 pm. Elk Fire Incident Command reported that a father went up the mountain after his son, who was attempting to extinguish a tree on fire with a shovel. Both individuals were later found at their residence. Law enforcement detained both parties and issued a warning, as their actions hindered firefighting operations.

8/14/2025 2 10:26 pm. Rangely PD reported someone lighting fireworks in the area of Parkview El-

ementary School. A deputy assisted and the suspect fled on foot from the scene. 8/15/2025 @ 8:55 am. A smoke report came into the Communications Center in the area of Aldrich Lakes. This was indeed another wildfire and was later named the

Aldrich Fire. The cause is under investigation. 8/16/2025 @ 11:48 am. A 5-year-old was reported missing from a residence in the town limits of Meeker. The hide-and-seek champion of the year goes to...the 5-year-old found in the basement.

TOTAL CALLS: 1127 — 911 CALLS: 32 — ADMIN: 1095		
CALL TYPE	SHERIFF	MEEKER PD
911	5	0
ABANDONED VEHICLE	2	0
ANIMAL	8	2
ASSIST COLORADO STATE PATROL	2	2
ASSIST MEEKER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT	0	2
ASSIST RANGELY PD	2	0
ASSIST RIO BLANCO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	0	1
ATTEMPT TO SERVE	5	3
BUSINESS CHECK	0	4
CITIZEN ASSIST	1	0
CITIZEN CONTACT	0	3
CIVIL	0	1
CRASH	1	1
DEATH	1	0
DIRECTED PATROL	7	2
DISTURBANCE	0	2
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	0	1
FIRE	1	0
FIRE - WILD	4	0
FOLLOW UP	1	2
HARASSMENT	0	1
HAZARD	1	0
INFORMATION	0	0
MEDICAL	0	0
MISSING PERSON	3	0
MOTORIST ASSIST	4	2
NOISE COMPLAINT	0	1
OVERDUE PARTY	1	0
PHONE FOLLOW-UP	1	3
SEX ASSAULT	0	1
SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT	2	1
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	1	1
TRAFFIC STOP	27	7
VIN INSPECTION	0	2
WARRANT ARREST	1	0
WELFARE CHECK	1	2
TOTALS	85	47
TOTAL INMATES IN JAIL AS OF 8/19/2025: 5		

Phone scam alert involving impersonation of Colorado Bureau of Investigation

RBC | There have been reports of scammers impersonating members of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation reaching out to people by phone posing as a CBI Cyber Crimes Special Agent. The party provides an unlikely story about detecting a cyber crime and asks the potential victim to provide him or her with a lot of personal information, including financial accounts and remote access to their computer. The caller provides a call back phone number that is not a CBI number. These scammers are very professional and may have a surprising amount of real information about the caller and the CBI (gathered from publicly available information).

If you receive a suspicious call, you should contact the relevant law enforcement agency directly to verify the information. In the case of the CBI, people can call our victim assistance hotline (855-443-3489).

No one from the CBI will ever request a payment over the phone. The CBI does not solicit for any public funds.

If you receive a suspicious call from someone alleging to be a CBI employee or other law enforcement official, please report the information to your local police department and visit the website: <https://www.stopfraudcolorado.gov>.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Date/location change for food bank to this Friday at City Park

MEEKER | The Meeker Mobile Pantry will be held on Friday, Aug. 22 at 10:30 a.m. at City Park. This is a date and location change due to the wildfires.

La Despensa Móvil Meeker se realizará el viernes 22 de agosto a las 10:30 a. m. en el Parque de la Ciudad. La fecha y el lugar se modificaron debido a los incendios forestales. a los incendios forestales.

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.

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.

RBC Democrats hosting potluck Sept. 3

MEEKER | Rio Blanco County Democrats are hosting a potluck dinner at the Town Park Pavillion (20 South 4th St., Meeker), Sept. 3, 5-8 p.m. and you are invited. We have invited US/Colorado Democrat candidates running for office in the 2026 midterms to join us. It will be an opportunity to learn about their plans concerning climate change, Colorado River compact, gerrymandering, affordable housing, etc. Bring a dish to share. Paper products, plasticware, and water will be available.

Community 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 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!



youthzone

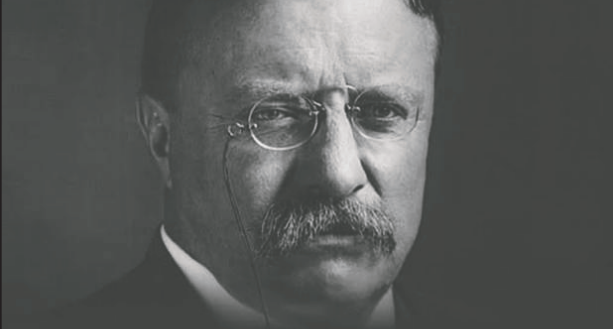
The Herald Times proudly supports YouthZone, a nonprofit that provides assessment, court advocacy, substance education, and counseling to at-risk youth in Rio Blanco, Garfield, and Pitkin Counties. To learn more and donate, visit www.youthzone.com/give.

"WHATEVER THE PRESENT MOMENT CONTAINS, ACCEPT IT AS IF YOU HAD CHOSEN IT." ECKHART TOLLE

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- THEODORE ROOSEVELT

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Can we hold on to the good as we return to normal?

"We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." ~ Abraham Lincoln

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



I am not a fan of the "learning lessons from trauma" school of thought. I acknowledge the potential for growth and development, but there are too many times when analyzing the lessons tragedy and disaster are supposed to teach us, that we end up revictimizing ourselves and others. There is no rational reason for irrational events. It's like applying the wrong algebraic equation to a problem and wondering why you can't get an answer that works.

What if the real lesson is less about pinpointing the cause (Mother Nature is mad, "act of God," stupid human tricks, old-fashioned bad luck, etc.) and more about what we can take with us that will improve life in the long run. It's the small kindnesses that emerge, the heroism and courage in neighbors and strangers. It's the stripping away of irrelevant labels that divide us. It's the knowledge that we're all in this messy thing called life together.

For now, we're beyond grateful, as we

should be. Awareness of the fragility of our reality changes the way we behave. The little gripes we had last month about our community, our neighbors, life in general... have (for most of us... there are some hopeless curmudgeons out there) faded into obscurity, sanded down by anxiety and exhaustion, and polished smooth with mindful appreciation. We've been reminded that we all have something in common, and that creates a connection that overrides petty differences.

We've seen this pattern again and again in times of tragedy and sorrow. Our "better angels" arise and for a few weeks

or a few months they dominate our conversations, our interactions, our choices. We're a little gentler with one another, we give a little more grace. We're less self-centered and more compassionate. For a time, we weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice. It is, as much as I hate to admit it, a silver lining.

The question is, how do we hold on to it? How do we keep "normal" life, as it returns, from tarnishing that silver lining and returning us to complacency or worse, contention? How do we stay in contact with our own better angels?

Fire recovery update and thanks from the commissioners

Dear Editor:

As we write this, more evacuation zones on the Lee Fire are being downgraded. Firefighters have contained 60% of the fire's perimeter and Highway 13 has reopened. A new Incident Management Team will continue work on the Lee Fire, and we will begin the work of recovery.

We've posted links to recovery resources on our website, rbc.us. If you are overwhelmed, you're not alone; there are links to crisis counseling and CSUs 'After the Disaster' guidebook to help you

begin the post fire recovery process.

In coming weeks, Rio Blanco County and partners will be assessing damage, evaluating and re-evaluating recovery needs. We've established work recovery areas to address these needs and appointed leads for each focus area. This coalition will guide the recovery process when state emergency managers depart on Friday afternoon.

The Mitigation and Restoration Group is focused on natural resources and agriculture. This team is working with ag producers and land agencies to identify needs and assess fire impacts. They've compiled recovery information for landowners and ag

producers on the White River & Douglas Creek Conservation District's website: www.whiterivercd.com.

The Infrastructure Recovery Work Area is assessing damage to utilities, roads and bridges, and potential impacts to Rangely water systems.

Public & Environmental Health/Debris Management is providing safety guidance and behavioral health support for community members returning to properties in the fire area. This group will provide guidance for moving debris from damaged structures to the landfill.

The Planning & Building Work Area will address building and permitting needs later in

the recovery process as rebuilding begins.

The Individual Needs Work Area will support housing, food, adult and essential needs.

The Economic Health Work Area will assess economic and business impacts and facilitate communication with businesses and employers.

Data & Information Management will collate damage assessment data in cooperation with a BLM Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team and the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Financial & Grants Management will track and oversee local, state and federal funding.

Each work area is researching funding opportunities specific to its focus.

Community recovery needs will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and work areas are subject to change as new information becomes available.

We thank you for your patience and support as we build a framework for the work ahead.

Jennifer O'Hearon
Doug Overton
Callie Scritchfield
Rio Blanco County
Commissioners

Gratitude to local and federal firefighters from Robinson family

Dear Editor:

The Lee wildfire burned past Mom and Dad's house with intensity in the wee hours of Aug. 9 and then burned back to the house on the afternoon and evening of Aug. 14. An engine crew from Meeker helped us fight the fire and save the house on the 9th. Federal wildland firefighters

helped us repeat the performance on the 14th.

Helicopters were a tremendous help. The crews that kept them working did a great service. Also, Chet Dieringer distinguished himself by resisting drama, keeping a cool head, gathering primary source data, and seeking understanding before taking decisive action. As we have observed time and again, the team from the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's office was wonderful. Please convey our appreciation to all of these public servants. Thank you!

Collin Robinson
Piceance Creek

Wildfires and losing our possessions

Dear Editor:

In the recent wildfires, we'll all been worrying about losing our homes and possessions. The images of a charred house with every item burned to a crisp is daunting. Fortunately, in the Meeker fire, most of us were spared these losses.

For us, our Meeker house is safe, but some bookcases and books stored on the family ranch have been lost. Our beautiful furniture from our Denver house is burnt beyond recognition. We worked very hard to save money to purchase these items and enjoyed them for many years. Now they are ashes.

Also stored there were many books – tabletop travel books, gobs of novels, Jay's Ph.D. research books and papers, and our son's college books. We've always loved to read and in the days prior to digital downloads, bought and read books constantly.

When we moved, I donated many books to

schools, to the library, and to book sales. It is heart breaking to say farewell to your beloved books along with your house and community. We still had more books that I boxed put into storage in the grainary. Now most are gone.

People often use that phrase "just possessions." On the one hand that is true and if we have our lives, we can move on without books or all the other stuff we've acquired over seventy plus years.

On the other hand, the very thought and worry of losing these things brings tears to our eyes and much sadness along with the despondency we are already experiencing. It feels like we all came extremely close to losing our cherished possessions.

I worried about my jewelry which includes gifts husband Jay has given me since the beginning of our marriage plus every birthday and Christmas since. In the big picture, they are just things I could live without. But, I would miss them forever.

There wasn't time to select and pack many possessions for a quick evacuation. I've been updating my list of "what to take" so it is easier to make decisions when choices have to be made quickly. That is difficult too, choosing what is most beloved and what must remain behind and possibly lost.

Yes, we are Meeker strong and we will continue with grit and determination. With the fires pretty much under control and evacuation concerns over, perhaps it is time to take a moment and be so very happy for everything we did not lose.

Kaye Sullivan
Meeker

CONSERVATION CORNER

Post-Wildfire Flooding

What You Need to Know to Protect Your Property

While the recent Lee and Elk Fires in Rio Blanco County are undergoing containment, the danger is far from over. As many residents breathe a sigh of relief with the flames almost out, the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation District urge landowners not to overlook one of the most serious threats that follow wildfire: post-wildfire flooding.

These fires scorched thousands of acres across steep and rugged terrain, leaving vast burn scars especially along the White River watershed making them vulnerable to erosion and flash floods. As we've seen in past fires like 2021 Oil Springs, the first major rainstorm after a wildfire can cause devastating floods, debris flows, and infrastructure damage, even miles downslope from the burn area.

Why Post-Wildfire Flooding Is So Dangerous

When vegetation burns, it no longer holds soil in place or absorbs rainwater. Without that natural buffer, even a moderate storm can send torrents of water, ash, and mud downhill-damaging homes, ranch roads, irrigation systems, and stream channels. The soil in these burn areas often become hydrophobic, meaning they repel water rather than absorb it, accelerating runoff and erosion. In areas impacted by the Lee and Elk Fires, where steep terrain and drainage channels are common, the risk is especially high.

What This Means for Rio Blanco County Residents

Whether or not your property burned in the Lee or Elk Fires, you could be at risk. Water flows downhill, and floods don't respect property boundaries. Communities downslope from the fire perimeter-including areas near drainage-fed pastures and infrastructures should prepare now.

Steps to Protect Your Property

- **Assess the Risk:** If you're located near or below a burn scar, particularly in a gully, wash, or low-lying area, you may be at elevated risk.
- **Install Protective Barriers:** Use straw wattles, sandbags, or berms to redirect water away from buildings, corrals, or sensitive infrastructure. For more information about sandbag collection, please email road@rbc.us.
- **Maintain Ditches and Culverts:** Clear out ash, sediment, and debris regularly. These materials build up quickly and can block drainage.
- **Stabilize the Soil:** Re-seed burned slopes and apply mulch or erosion control fabric to prevent further soil loss and promote regrowth.
- **Have an Emergency Plan:** Know where water might flow on your property and have evacuation routes, if necessary, and supplies ready in case of sudden flooding.
- **Purchase flood insurance:** Burned landscapes are highly vulnerable to flash floods and mudslides. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is managed by FEMA.

We're Here to Help

The White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts are partnering with state and federal agencies to gather post-fire condition assessments from the Lee and Elk Fires, secure immediate erosion control resources, and connect landowners with recovery programs. Wildfire recovery doesn't end when the smoke clears—it's an ongoing process. Monsoon season is coming, and with rain in the future now is the time to act to protect your property, infrastructure, and community from flooding that threatens the watershed.

For more information, visit our website www.whiterivercd.com, for a list of Wildfire Recovery Resources, our Facebook and Instagram pages or call the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation District at 970.878.9838 for a list of programs and resources.



www.whiterivercd.com

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Sports & Recreation

Meeker archers compete and win at national tournament



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COURTESY PHOTO

From left to right, four of the six members of the Arrow Busters team who recently competed and won at the National S3DA Western Outdoor Nationals archery tournament: Auri Murray, Hudson Hummel, Sawyer Hummel, Dawn Arnold

Results:

Dawn Arnold
2nd in Target
Top 5 in 3D

Eli Bennett
Top 10 in Target
National Champion in 3D
Runner up Shooter of the Year

Heath Bennett
Top 5 in Target
Top 10 in 3D

Hudson Hummel
Top 10 in Target
Top 15 in 3D

Sawyer Hummel
Top 10 in Target
3rd in 3D
Runner up Shooter of the Year

Auri Murray
National Champion in Target
National Champion in 3D
Shooter of the Year

Special to the HT

MEEKER | Six Meeker archers recently traveled to Helena, Montana, to compete at the National S3DA Western Outdoor Nationals archery tournaments.

They competed throughout four days consisting of two days of Outdoor Target and

two days of 3D shooting up to 50 meters. There were about 150 archers from all over the nation in attendance. A Shooter of the Year buckle was also at stake for those who shot at Indoor and Outdoor nationals.

Weather was not their friend, as they dealt with very windy conditions and some rain. Their hard work, preparedness, coaching and mentoring showed as most of them returned

home with some bling.

Their team, the Arrow Busters of Western Colorado, brought home about half of the team awards and 10 shooter of the year or runner-up awards. Those who placed in the top three in the young adult class receive scholarship opportunities from numerous colleges throughout the nation.

MHS volleyball eyes surprise season behind veteran core

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

MEEKER | A new season means new opportunities for the Meeker High School volleyball team. After graduating several longtime starters, the Cowboys enter the 2025 campaign with a senior class ready to lead, rising underclassmen eager to contribute, and a coach who believes this group just might surprise people.

After losing several key starters from last year, the Cowboys are still filling critical roles including outside hitter, middle hitter, setter and libero.

“We lost a lot last year. Three of those kids started for three seasons,” Cravens said. “We need to find some kids to fill an outside hitter, middle hitter, setter and libero position. After these first few practices we have some potential, and after a few matches of experience, we feel pretty good about where we are at.”

Returning starters Rylee Sullivan, Lily Newman and Sawyer May provide experience and leadership, while Jacey Follman steps into the starting setter role and Braydin Raley takes over as libero.

“Rylee is an outside hitter who has great responsibility in serve receive and our offense, so

we will be leaning on her a lot this season,” Cravens said. “Braydin will do great replacing one of the best liberos I have coached. She will be the one running all over the gym chasing down volleyballs.”

Sullivan said she is embracing that responsibility as she heads into her senior season. “I think a big part of my mindset is going to be driven by the limited time that I have,” she said. “It is sad that it is going to be the last time, but so incredibly grateful that I get to play one more year. The responsibility is stressful for sure, but I will be embracing all of it and trying to keep the team rolling.”

This year’s senior class includes Follman, Morgan Keetch, Newman, Raley, Shailee Rundberg, Lissabeth Sanchez and Sullivan, who have already set a strong tone.

“I have appreciated over the years how the incoming seniors always step up and make the program theirs,” Cravens said. “I am just along for the ride, and they are the ones driving the team.”

One senior expected to make an impact is Rundberg, who was the Cowboys’ OH3 last season. Cravens said she finished last year strong and has impressed again this summer.

“This summer we have moved her around



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Meeker senior Jacey Follman sets the ball as senior Braydin Raley and freshman Raegan Clatterbaugh prepare for the attack during a scrimmage three weeks ago hosted by Meeker High School.

and she shines in several positions,” Cravens said. “It will be exciting to see all the ways we use her this year.”

Rundberg said the adjustments have challenged her but also helped her grow.

“It’s definitely been an adjustment, however I have faith that my coaches know what’s best for me and what will push me the

hardest,” Rundberg said. “I enjoy being a ‘do-it-all’ player because it helps me improve in every single area rather than just focusing on one spot and not knowing how to do the rest.”

Several younger players, including Keelan Dade, Lili Hernandez and Raegan Clatterbaugh, are also expected to contribute early.

“The girls work well with each other, even with all the new faces,” Cravens said.

The Cowboys open Friday, Aug. 22, against Pagosa Springs and Glenwood Springs, with Saturday’s matches including Roaring Fork — whom Meeker beat 2-1 in last year’s tournament — and a yet-to-be-determined team.

Cont. on P7



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From first grade to fine arts: new educators join Meeker classrooms

Special to the HT

MEEKER | As the school bell rang Monday, Meeker welcomed a mix of new and familiar teachers ready to inspire students and embrace the community.

Barone Middle School added a husband-and-wife team, Ted and Jana Dawson. Before introducing themselves, the Dawsons thanked the firefighters, including their nephew and Meeker graduate Charlie Day, for protecting the community during the recent wildfires.

The couple previously taught in Bagdad, Arizona, and lived in Tucson before moving to Meeker. Ted said his passion for education comes from encouraging students.

"There's no other job where you get to say, 'You can do it,' and, 'I believe in you,' as much as coaching and teaching," he said.

For Jana, the joy of working with kids sparked her career path.

"Being around kids is fun and energizing," she said. "Every day something inspiring happens and, often, something hilarious and ridiculous happens. While attending MHS, I was an aide in the kindergarten for two years. Fun fact: my current next-door neighbor was one of the kindergartners I got to know during those years."

Returning to her hometown was also a big factor in their move.

"I grew up in Meeker and my parents, sisters and many friends still live here, so Meeker was calling us to come home," she said. "Also, our nephews

and niece went through Meeker School District and have turned out great, so we know this is a quality place."

The Dawsons said their first impressions of the community have been overwhelmingly positive.

"The amount of work the kids had put into their animals [at the Rio Blanco County Fair] was amazing and their conduct during the judging was really impressive," they said. "Since the fires started, the generosity, support, and cooperation among people in this community has just been amazing to see."

In the classroom, Ted said he focuses on hands-on learning.

"In addition to traditional paper and pencil math, students construct angles with tape and string, use rubber bands and meter sticks to study metric measurement and decimals, and groups of students have friendly competition against other teams to review," he said.

Jana said she uses technology to get students involved.

"Slideshows and the doc cam help students get excited about sharing their ideas, writing and projects with their classmates," she said.

The Dawsons are also eager to experience Meeker traditions.

"I can't wait for the Homecoming parade, and I'm excited to attend the Sheepdog Trials," Jana said.

Ted added, "I can't wait for our first home game for girls' basketball. Also, I want to see how late in the year I can get in the White River."

They also shared a couple fun facts: Ted was recently shocked by an electric fence, and Jana carries a scar from



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

New Barone Middle School teachers Ted and Jana Dawson stand in front of the Meeker Cowboy inside BMS. The couple, who previously taught in Arizona, said they are eager to make Meeker their home and are excited to be part of the community and its traditions.

when a 4-H steer kicked her.

"Never tie a steer to a post that they can walk around, kids," she said with a laugh.

Outside the classroom, the couple enjoys music, hiking and road trips.

Also joining the district is Janelle Dobson, who will teach art and music at Meeker Elementary. Dobson has a background in choir and early

childhood education, having served as interim choir director at Georgia-Cumberland Academy, taught at John L. Coble Elementary School, and worked at an early childhood learning center in Michigan.

"I've always enjoyed collaborating with people since high school," she said. "I believe that education is

Cont. on P8

Season opener in Grand Junction awaits MHS cross country team

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

MEEKER | After more than a decade at the helm, head coach Marty Casey is entering his 12th season with the Meeker High School cross country program. For Casey, the first meet of the year is less about medals and more about measuring progress — and this year's Cowboys have plenty to prove.

He will once again be assisted by Terrence Casias. The Cowboys are scheduled to open their season Saturday at Las Colonias Park in Grand Junction, after shifting

plans from the Basalt Invitational due to concerns about the Highway 13 closure.

"As per usual for a first meet I will be interested to see our runner's fitness levels, as only meet competition can produce," Casey said. "While early success can be great for morale, I try to reinforce that the first meet provides a benchmark. We can use this meet to build toward future success."

The Cowboys bring a young but talented roster to the course this fall. Key returners include Bradley Conrado, who impressed last season, and Ryan Hanberg, who Casey said is "hungry for competi-

tion." Freshmen Landon Damitz and Jackson Steele are also expected to make an impact, with Steele drawing praise for his strong work ethic.

Summer training left the coach wishing for more mileage, but Casey said the team is energized and ready to compete.

"As is often the case, I would like to have more mileage by this point," he said. "Everyone seems excited for the season, and ready to get to work."

Casey is also looking forward to a schedule that includes several new courses.

"We have several meets on the schedule that I have not attended be-

fore," he said. "Meeker has not been up to Leadville during my tenure, and the regional course is not one with which I am familiar. I always enjoy trying somewhere new."

Early-season competition, he said, provides valuable information for adjusting training.

"We get the best information from racing," Casey said. "With a better idea of our starting point we can build more base mileage, move to strength or speed work,

and increase stamina. We can do this wholly, in small groups, or individually as applicable."

The Cowboys' senior class — Cameron Hanberg, Haylee Steele and Remy Broussard — will be counted on to provide leadership.

"I appreciate their hard work throughout the years, and look forward to watching them use their experience to help lead the team this year," Casey said.

Above all, Casey is

excited to hit the course come Saturday.

"We have a fantastic group of runners, and I have nothing but respect and admiration for all of the work they have and will do this season."

With a young roster, a handful of proven returners, and seniors ready to lead, the Cowboys' opening race in Grand Junction is just the first step in a season built on growth, competition, and the pursuit of postseason success.

(Cont.) MHS volleyball season kicks off this Friday at Glenwood tournament

Cont. from P6

"This early in the season we are concentrating on us more than the other teams," Cravens said. "We tell the kids all the other teams are good, and we need to be at our best."

Cravens said he has circled several league matchups on the calendar.

"Vail Christian will always be a good matchup for us," he said. "Vail Mountain had some good young kids last year and Rangely always brings it when they play us."

The Glenwood Springs tournament provides Meeker an early chance to test itself against bigger schools and top competition. Cravens also highlighted the addition of Rebekah Cravens, Michelle Selle and Krissie Luce to his staff this season.

"I needed to get Coach Turner and Coach Steerman some help trying to keep me in line," Cravens joked. "I always love having input from others on players and concepts. The three of them have been a

great addition."

Describing this year's team in one word, Cravens said: "Surprise. I think we will surprise some folks this year. We have a lot of work in front of us, but I don't think we will be as bad as others may think."

He added that the most exciting part of opening weekend is seeing his team challenged right away.

"The best part of high school volleyball is that we line up the best kids that walk into our gym against the best of the other schools," Cravens said. "We need to be at our best right away."

This season marks Cravens' ninth year at Meeker, 27th coaching high school volleyball, and 30th overall season coaching volleyball, a career highlighted by developing strong teams and resilient athletes.

As the Cowboys head into opening weekend, the focus remains on growth and teamwork. With veteran leadership, versatile talent, and a drive to prove themselves, Meeker is determined to make this season one to remember.



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(Cont.) Dobson, Doan join Meeker Elementary staff



New Meeker Elementary School teachers Janelle Dobson (left), who will teach art and music, and Molly Doan (right), who will be teaching first-grade, stand in front of the school sign as they begin the 2025–26 school year.

Cont. from P8

best profession for collaboration. I especially like seeing the ‘Ah-ha!’ moments in students. When I was a senior in high school, I was the soprano section leader of my choir. Being responsible for ensuring the section knew our parts is what made me fall in love with music education. There is so much beauty in different people coming together to make beautiful music.”

Dobson said she was drawn to Meeker because of its strong music culture.

“During my interview for Meeker Elementary, I immediately sensed how the administration supported each other and how well they work together,” she said. “This school district has a strong music community

that I’m very excited to be a part of.”

She added that the warm welcome from colleagues has made her feel at home.

“Everyone has blown me away with how welcoming and helpful they are,” Dobson said. “The day that I moved into town, my colleagues rallied a group together to help me unload my car. I already feel like I belong in this community.”

Dobson said she uses “movement and silliness” to keep students engaged and is most looking forward to getting to know her students.

“We are gonna have fun learning together,” she said.

A fun fact: Dobson has never ridden a horse, though she hopes to soon. Outside of school, she enjoys outdoor activities, video games, longboarding, baking, cooking and traveling.

Also new to the teaching staff is Molly Doan, who is stepping into her first classroom role as a first-grade teacher after working as a special education paraprofessional and substitute in the district.

“I am currently finishing up my degree and first grade had an opening that I decided to apply for,” she said. “I love first grade and was excited for the opportunity.”

Doan said she looks forward to seeing the progress her students will make.

“I am most excited to see the growth the kids make every day,” she said. “They learn so much in first grade!”

She added that the school’s culture motivat-

ed her to apply.

“Everyone in this school cares so much about each child and not only are they kind and helpful to each kid, they do the same thing for each other,” she said.

Doan grew up in a small town in Ohio where half the population was Amish. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and exploring with her family, cooking, baking and gardening.

“I enjoy traveling and exploring with my family during the summer,” she said. “I also love to cook and bake and I try my best to garden.”

With fresh ideas, strong ties to the community, and a shared passion for helping students grow, Meeker’s newest teachers are ready to dive into the school year. Whether it’s through music, math, English, or the milestones of first grade, each of them is eager to make a difference in the lives of their students and become part of the traditions that make the district special.

Superintendent Chris Selle said the district is fortunate to have the group join the staff.

“We are grateful for the new teaching staff in Meeker,” Selle said. “With the addition of Mrs. Doan, Mrs. Dobson, Mrs. Dawson, and Mr. Dawson, we are fully staffed. That is not something most rural school districts can claim. Each individual has come to us highly recommended. We are grateful they decided to become a member of the instructional staff in the Meeker School District!”

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OBITUARY

Ray William Castle

Jan. 27, 1964 ~ July 31, 2025



Ray William Castle

The life of a man whose dedication and love shaped the lives of all who knew him is honored: Ray William Castle. He was a steadfast provider, a tireless worker, and a source of comfort, guidance and endless love. Ray was an amazing dad to his three

daughters: Chelsey, Joelle and Anna, an incredible husband to his wife Christine and most profound grandfather to his seven grandchildren and great-grandson. Ray was preceded in death by his parents, Ray Sr. and Juanita (Dolly) Castle, along with his brother Leroy. He is survived by his four siblings: Ruthie, Tammy, Terrie and Mike.

Born in Meeker, Colorado, on Jan. 27, 1964, Ray had a carefree and wild spirit whilst younger but as he grew, he approached life with an earnest sense of responsibility and a deep commitment to his family. Trucking was a huge part of who he was, although working for Twin Enviro the last few years of his life while in Craig,

he was most proud to have owned his own tree service in his home town, Meeker. His hands, though calloused from years of labor, were always extended in kindness and support. At the end of the day, what truly gave his soul peace was doing what made him happy...camping, fishing, golfing and taking his family out on his boat.

More than just providing materially, Ray always had a way of nurturing his family with an abundance of love. While he may not have always expressed it through elaborate words, his actions spoke volumes, demonstrating his love in the quiet moments—a reassuring hug and kiss on the forehead (those were the best). Our father's love and legacy are not measured solely by accomplishments, but by the love he shared, the values he imparted, and the indelible mark he left on the hearts of those he loved. Though he is no longer physically present, his spirit lives on. His memory will be forever cherished, the life he lived will be celebrated, and the values he instilled will be carried forward, ensuring that his legacy lives on for generations.

A celebration of life will be held at South Fork on Saturday, Aug. 23 at 2 p.m.

(Cont.) New middle school principal brings decades of experience

Cont. from P1

"The schools are amazing," Atwell said. "We are attracted to small, rural, ranch and farm living, plus the amazing outdoor recreation and hunting opportunities this community offers. Meeker has a charming historic downtown, and has invested in youth and its community. It really seems like a gold mine. And if you've ever experienced southern humidity, you know the weather here is wonderful."

Before moving to Meeker, Dr. Atwell served as a superintendent in Arkansas for the past seven years in a small rural town of similar size. She said that role taught her important lessons she is eager to apply at Barone Middle School.

"The challenges are many, but the reward is the opportunity to build culture, build capacity, and build systems that serve students and honor the community's history and tradition," she said.

For the upcoming school year, Dr. Atwell's focus will be on building relationships and strengthening the school's existing successes.

"Successful school cultures are the ones that embrace the challenges, work as teams, and do whatever it takes to ensure that all students learn at

high levels," she said. "My focus will be on building relationships with the staff, students and parents, learning how Meeker Excellence works, and how I can support and build on that success."

Dr. Atwell said she enjoys working with middle school students because they are at a "unique crossroads in development."

"They are no longer small children, yet they are not quite teens," she said. "We get to witness them developing their own identities, opinions, and sense of humor while we build knowledge and skills that ensure they are high school ready. They are often incredibly curious and love the things they are passionate about. They are pretty interesting and a lot of fun to be around. They may hold the secret to life's energy source."

She plans to keep families engaged in school life through open communication and community involvement.

"I believe it is important to connect with families, keep them in the loop, and be involved with them in school and community events," she said. "Every parent has great hopes and dreams for their child and we want to partner in making those attainable."

Outside of school, Dr. Atwell said she and her husband have built a life they love.

"As a young couple we played softball and hunted, and then for many years, showed AQHA in western pleasure and halter," she said. "We raised Australian Shepherds for about 20 years, and love Jack Russell terriers. Children came along and our attention turned to team sports. After that stage of life, we turned our focus to cattle, hunting, camping and traveling. I got pretty good at homemade wine making, but fell out of practice. We have a small cow/calf farm, and can manage to work cows together and remain on speaking terms, mostly. If you know, you know."

"We enjoy archery and rifle deer hunting, with some of our best times together on an elk hunt or in tree stands over corn and soybean fields in Missouri. We enjoy time with our grandchildren, so we play Memory and Old Maid, and are working our way through all the good Disney movies again. I still cry at 'Old Yeller.' We are ready to hear the elk bugle and watch the aspen change."

With her deep experience and passion for rural education, Dr. Atwell looks forward to becoming an active part of the Meeker community and guiding Barone Middle School toward continued success in the years ahead.

FUNERAL NOTICE

James Lee Ruckman

Jan. 29, 1937 ~ Aug. 9, 2025



James Lee Ruckman

There will be a service for James Lee Ruckman on Tuesday, Aug. 26, at 2 p.m. at Calahan-Edfast in Grand Junction (2515 Patterson Rd.) and a graveside service at Highland Cemetery in Meeker on Oct. 3, 2025, at 10 a.m.



DAYS GONE BY

MEEKER HERALD ~ 125 YEARS AGO

The Rio Blanco County High School will open on Sept. 7. Parents and pupils may meet the principal or superintendent at the high school Friday and Saturday afternoons for consultation.

A traveling sign painter was in town this week and as a result several of the stores are displaying new signs. The workmanship was good.

John Kenney and Everett Rector of Rangely were attending to court business in town most of the week.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 100 YEARS AGO

Ice is getting to be a scarce commodity about Meeker. Those who have any are holding on to it for fear of running out before the new crop comes in.

The forest fires raging in the eastern end of Garfield County have finally extended to the south fork of White River. At times, Meeker is enveloped in heavy smoke and the odor of burning pines is easily perceptible.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 75 YEARS AGO

The rural residents of the White River Valley are much interested in the Rural Electrification plan. The Sather Jewelry Store which is to be located in the Romney building next door to the Rio Theatre will open for business Tuesday, Sept. 4.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 50 YEARS AGO

President Gerald Ford pointed to a question he had about oil shale at the Paraho Oil Shale Demonstration project near Rifle this past Monday. Here the question of how the Western Slope is to handle the growth impact received the President's attention with no real answers

coming to surface.

A totally demolished 1975 Chevrolet was pulled out of the White River in which three teenagers died as the result of the one-car accident three miles east of Meeker early last Saturday morning. Two other teenagers received serious injuries while a third miraculously escaped with minor cuts and bruises.

Kay Dora Bivens of Meeker has been selected for inclusion in the 1975 edition of "Outstanding Young Women of America."

MEEKER HERALD ~ 25 YEARS AGO

Gas customers will see a change on their August 31 gas bills. The rate hike was painstakingly agreed to by the Rangely Town Council in a resolution on Tuesday night. Leon Brown addressed the council with concerns that the twenty-five cents per CCF was a little too steep for customers to bear all at once.

A pair of sisters represented Meeker at the statewide American Coed Pageant in Denver on July 28 and 29, 2000. Jessa Mehlhoff, age 11, was a State Finalist in the Preteen Division (ages 10-12). Jade Mehlhoff, age 9, was a State Finalist in the Sweetheart Division (ages 7-9).

RANGELY TIMES ~ 50 YEARS AGO

"There is enough water available for oil shale development," according to William E. Moffett, vice president — public relations for Gulf Oil Corporation.

There are several lots around Town upon which the excessive growth of weeds and/or the accumulation of other trash have become a problem.

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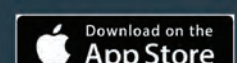
- Schedule or request appointments
- Review upcoming visits with location info
- Complete registration forms before arrival
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PUBLIC NOTICES

SEMI ANNUAL REPORT
RIO BLANCO COUNTY, RHONNA WALDREF, TREASURER
JANUARY 1, 2025 TO JUNE 30, 2025

Account	Beginning Balance	Current Tax	Delinquent Tax	Miscellaneous Receipts	Transfers	Warrants Paid	Treasurer's Fees	Transfers	Ending Balance
Rhonna Waldref, Treasurer	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,515.00	0.00	0.00	15.15	1,499.85	0.00
Shawn Luca, Clerk	0.00	0.00	0.00	106,376.06	0.00	0.00	1,063.76	105,312.30	0.00
Treas Admin Fee	0.00	7,881.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,881.98	0.00
Treas Advertising Fee	0.00	89.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	89.00	0.00
Assessor Penalty Fee	0.00	275.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	275.00	0.00
Public Trustee	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,900.00	0.00
Anthony Mazzola, Sheriff	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,741.61	0.00	0.00	27.43	2,714.18	0.00
General Fund	38,163,745.93	2,510,721.09	6.95	5,790,635.67	1,577,636.48	4,912,815.65	174,157.50	369,064.76	42,586,708.21
Capital Expenditure Fund	79,509.18	0.00	0.22	782.67	250.39	3,881.08	7.86	15,889.00	60,764.52
Road & Bridge Fund	9,748,936.65	4,150,692.91	7.66	1,982,645.80	0.00	1,975,606.28	221,722.63	799,339.69	12,885,614.42
Dept of Human Services	1,481,570.56	347,660.87	0.55	567,243.44	0.00	713,625.11	0.00	34,783.02	1,648,067.29
Use Tax Fund	4,195,521.48	0.00	0.00	577,472.54	0.00	313,340.47	5,774.86	91,999.45	4,361,879.24
Contingency Fund	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
Capital Improvement Program	1,573,291.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	525,774.84	0.00	0.00	1,047,517.07
Conservation Trust Fund	27,966.09	0.00	0.00	5,662.14	715.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,343.24
Fleet Management Fund	1,503,414.71	0.00	0.00	79,361.87	1,174,918.92	998,860.46	793.61	78,941.05	1,679,100.38
Central Services	164,466.42	0.00	0.00	177.47	491,950.37	581,232.69	0.00	0.00	75,361.57
Solid Waste Landfill Fund	6,672,272.06	0.00	0.00	231,248.21	0.00	727,519.08	2,314.49	220,123.35	5,953,565.35
Fairfield Complex Fund	83,646.64	0.00	0.00	4,852.47	22,859.72	38,847.05	48.52	25,103.21	47,360.05
Weed & Pest Control Fund	117,771.45	0.00	0.00	21,720.44	70,115.08	148,496.37	217.20	14,436.13	46,457.27
County Public Health Fund	512,606.03	38,640.34	0.15	179,118.11	0.00	182,645.51	0.00	16,377.58	531,341.54
Communications Fund	1,232,788.33	0.00	0.00	561,266.59	773.82	511,088.62	5,612.69	41,546.63	1,236,580.80
American Rescue Plan	2,655,688.35	0.00	0.00	52,942.22	0.00	548,460.55	529.43	0.00	2,159,640.59
Piceance Creek Pest Control	610,981.25	210,135.53	0.00	4,532.98	0.00	0.00	9,417.41	17,411.10	798,821.25
Lower White River Pest	220,016.11	142,603.24	0.00	3,161.15	0.00	0.00	7,131.79	36,568.34	322,080.37
Balances: County Funds:	69,144,193.15	7,408,699.96	15.53	10,179,356.44	3,339,219.79	12,182,193.76	428,832.33	1,885,255.62	75,575,203.16
Town of Meeker, General	1,864.24	224,581.18	0.00	13,587.43	0.00	185,751.57	4,564.59	0.00	49,716.69
Meeker Special Assessment	0.00	381.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	290.00	0.00	0.00	91.00
Eastern RBC Health Svcs Dist	11,134.32	3,659,048.80	12.47	78,994.13	0.00	3,214,213.26	180,598.55	0.00	354,377.91
Meeker Library District	1,562.61	56,266.04	2.28	2,697.58	0.00	53,184.43	2,478.95	0.00	4,865.13
Meeker Sanitation District	493.22	201,588.81	0.00	4,466.13	0.00	152,275.11	10,010.66	0.00	44,262.39
Meeker Sanitation Fee	0.00	3,168.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,824.00	0.00	0.00	1,344.00
R.B. Fire Protection District	3,931.84	1,293,934.37	4.19	27,918.67	0.00	1,136,710.16	63,829.67	0.00	125,249.24
Meeker Cemetery District	1,322.48	435,653.37	1.35	9,400.06	0.00	382,706.65	21,490.27	0.00	42,180.34
Eastern RBC Rec. District	8,285.07	2,691,874.39	9.78	56,356.46	0.00	2,357,478.21	132,458.95	0.00	266,588.54
Town of Rangely General	1,399.97	139,661.78	0.00	11,071.37	0.00	125,949.63	2,700.57	0.00	23,482.92
Rangely Special Assessment	183.97	2,995.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,892.51	0.00	0.00	1,287.03
Rangely Hospital Bond	321.42	3,059,952.86	0.00	63,136.52	(63,034.65)	2,786,203.32	152,909.87	0.00	121,262.96
Rangely Hospital Dist. General	18,137.56	3,604,716.43	0.00	77,285.69	63,034.65	3,402,034.08	180,106.15	0.00	181,034.10
Rangely Cemetery District	97.05	41,982.17	0.00	862.57	0.00	38,939.83	2,097.74	0.00	1,904.22
Rangely Rural Fire District	1,648.40	552,396.95	0.00	11,779.63	0.00	513,167.40	27,601.85	0.00	25,055.73
Rangely Library District	412.08	138,099.26	0.00	2,944.90	0.00	128,291.88	6,900.45	0.00	6,263.91
Rio Blanco Water Conservancy	513.48	172,071.62	0.00	3,669.36	0.00	159,851.60	8,598.00	0.00	7,804.86
West RBC Recreation General	7,112.87	2,381,924.92	0.00	50,473.49	0.00	2,211,640.62	119,014.07	0.00	108,856.59
Yellow Jacket Water District	51.73	18,869.36	0.01	471.48	0.00	15,455.55	941.88	0.00	2,995.15
Colorado River Water	1,174.46	390,155.27	0.74	8,383.96	0.00	349,707.41	19,342.75	0.00	30,664.27
White River Conservation	186.60	44,789.97	0.43	1,056.20	0.00	37,095.05	2,141.54	0.00	6,796.61
Douglas Creek Conservation	19.81	6,042.64	0.00	130.28	0.00	5,780.01	302.14	0.00	110.58
Re-1 General	20,172.34	3,337,472.98	11.16	225,483.49	92,235.26	3,148,062.06	8,387.43	0.00	518,925.74
Re-1 Bond	120.09	2,216,993.96	6.84	45,202.83	(45,108.59)	2,001,541.16	0.00	0.00	215,673.97
Re-1 Bond #2	103.17	2,316,187.22	7.10	47,218.24	(47,126.67)	2,091,067.44	0.00	0.00	225,321.62
Re-4 Transportation	796.74	266,983.31	0.00	5,646.79	0.00	260,781.61	0.00	0.00	12,645.23
Re-4 General	7,994.25	3,086,843.79	0.00	178,802.57	40,321.50	3,037,639.74	7,716.62	0.00	268,605.75
Re-4 Bond	149,659.01	2,643,271.75	0.00	40,409.32	(40,321.50)	2,676,070.16	0.00	0.00	116,948.42
Re-3 Jt. General	28.17	12,853.44	0.00	248.96	0.00	12,237.45	30.96	0.00	862.16
Re-3 Jt Transportation	1.93	893.58	0.00	17.86	0.00	851.01	0.00	0.00	62.36
Re-3 Supplemental	6.57	2,825.61	0.00	56.97	0.00	2,559.76	141.28	0.00	188.11
CNCC General	4,215.06	1,381,307.70	0.00	29,620.46	0.00	1,283,498.82	69,005.14	0.00	62,639.26
CNCC Contract Obligation	1,226.88	441,602.24	0.00	9,252.34	0.00	431,115.26	0.00	0.00	20,966.20
Range Improvement Dist. #15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor Vehicle	353.30	0.00	0.00	942,642.38	0.00	942,554.38	0.00	0.00	441.30
Governmental Revenue	332.00	0.00	0.00	1,231.00	0.00	1,243.00	0.00	0.00	320.00
Lodging Tax Fund	956.48	0.00	0.00	29,008.96	0.00	20,821.04	290.10	0.00	8,854.30
Unsupport SO Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	875,692.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	875,691.98	0.02
Refund	0.00	57.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	57.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Redemption Fund	0.00	5,548.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,548.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prepayments	24,735.27	1,747.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,267.82	4,214.71
Prepay House Accounts	840.00	810.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	710.00	810.00
	\$69,414,747.58	\$42,244,254.20	\$71.88	\$13,034,576.52	\$3,339,219.79	\$45,358,285.57	\$1,452,492.51	\$2,783,215.42	\$78,438,876.48

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8. 1/168th of a week
12. Purse to match a gown
13. Karl of politics
14. Model builder's wood choice
15. *YDS, TD or INT
16. Black like certain tree
17. *Last season's NFL MVP
18. *Worth 6 points
20. Way, way off
21. Owl cries
22. Come and ___ it
23. Ape
26. Stucco or aluminum on a house wall, pl.
30. "Wheel of Fortune" request
31. Bette Green's "Summer of my ___ Soldier"
34. Stag, not doe
35. Like an uncomfortable mattress
37. European Economic Community
38. "NFL Hall of Famer Greene or comedian Hart
39. Seed coat
40. Cylindrical flower cluster
42. Stir or fuss
43. City in Illinois
45. #10 Down's counterpart
47. Small dog's bark
48. Adams of "Summer Of '69"

DOWN

1. Bothersome one
2. *Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Graham
3. Molokai party
4. Leechee, alt. sp.
5. R2-D2, e.g.
6. Declares to be true
7. *College, home to football's Nittany Lions
8. *Football intermission
9. Paella pot
10. Addict
11. *What the NFL's Jim Brown famously did
13. Fixed up
14. Bleated
19. Hoagie, alt. sp.
22. Bathtub hooch
23. Green side
24. Accustom
25. Imitate
26. *Quarterback's downfall

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

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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.

27. The N of U.S.N.A.
28. Move smoothly
29. Mister in Madrid
32. ___-view mirror
33. What Harry and Sally did
36. *Pre-championship games
38. Work the dough
40. High tea vessel
41. Bucolics
44. Gustatory sensation

CROSSWORD

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46. Hook, line and sinker person
48. Coffin holders
49. Rekindled
50. Type of ski lift
51. Drift like aroma
52. Type of fish net
53. Like acne-prone skin
54. Climber's destination
55. It's more, to some
56. Don McLean: "A long, long time ____"

PUBLIC NOTICES

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Rangely School District
Rio Blanco County, Colorado
The Rangely School District in the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. At this election 3 directors will be elected representing Rangely School District for a term of office of four years and 1 director will be elected representing Rangely School District for a term of office of two years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election [and a resident of the director district which will be represented]. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child. A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least 25 eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election. Nomination petitions may be obtained at the Rangely School District Administration Building, 402 W Main St, Rangely, Colorado 81648. Office hours are 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday. Completed petitions shall be submitted to Teresa Gilbert no later than 1:00 p.m. on August 29, 2025. Published: August 7, 14 and 21, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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

INVITATION TO BID

Rangely Regional Library District
109 East Main Street
Rangely, CO 81648
Separate sealed bids for installation of a 10-foot by 19-foot cement slab on the west side of the Library. Project details can be requested from the Library Director, Amorette Hawkins, at 109 East Main Street, Rangely, CO, phone #970-675-8811.
Deadline for bids is Friday, September 5,

2025 at 5:00 P.M.
Published: August 21 and 28, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

TOWN OF RANGELY AGENDA

August 26, 2025 -7:00pm
Town of Rangely Council Chambers
Rangely Board of Trustees (Town Council)
Ron Granger, Mayor
Andy Shaffer, Mayor Pro Tem
Todd Thayne, trustee
shawn morgan, trustee
Tim webber, Trustee
Kyle wren, Trustee
Robby Elm, Trustee
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Minutes of Meeting
a. Discussion and Action to approve the Town Council minutes of August 12th, 2025.
6. Petitions and Public Input
7. Changes to the Agenda
8. Public Hearings- 7:10pm
9. Town Manager Update
Council Reports
11. Supervisor Reports
a. Michael Dillon – Water & Wastewater
12. Old Business
a. Discussion and action to approve the MOU between Rangely School District and the Rangely Police Department for the School Resource Officer for Academic year 2025-2026.
13. New Business
a. Discussion and action to approve the July 2025 Financial Statement
b. Discussion and action to approve a contract for Lisa Piering, to serve as Interim-Town Manager for the term of August 18 th -December 31 st .
c. Discussion and action to approve a grant from Colorado Housing and Finance Authority in the amount of \$30,355.00 for the River Boat Ramp project
d. Discussion and action to approve a grant from Colorado Water Conservation Board in the amount of \$33,275.00 for the River Boat Ramp project
e. Discussion and action to approve a grant request to U.S. Fish and Wildlife for \$31,000.00 for the River Boat Ramp project.
Informational Items
a. Septemberfest, August 30 – September 1, 2025
Board Vacancies
a. RDA/RDC
16. Scheduled Announcements
a. Rio Blanco County Commissioners Board meeting is scheduled for August 12th, 2025, at 11:00 am in Meeker
b. RDA/RDC Board meeting is scheduled for August 14th, 2025, at 7:30 am
c. Giant Step Preschool Board meeting is scheduled for August 14th, 2025, at 6:00 pm
d. Community Outreach meeting is cancelled for August 2025
e. Rangely School District Board meeting is scheduled for August 19th, 2025, at 6:15 pm
f. Rangely Junior College District Board meeting is scheduled for August 19th, 2025, at 12:00 noon

g. Rangely Chamber of Commerce Board meeting is scheduled for July 17th, 2025, at 12:30 noon
h. Rangely District Library Board meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2025, at 5:00 pm
i. WRB Park & Recreation District Board meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2025, at 6:00 pm
j. Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2025, at 7:00 pm
k. Rio Blanco County Commissioners Board meeting is scheduled for August 26th, 2025, at 9:00 am in Rangely
l. Rangely District Hospital Board meeting is scheduled for August 27th, 2025, at 6:00 pm
m. RBC Water Conservancy District Budget Work session is scheduled for August 28th, 2025, at 6:30 pm
17. Adjournment
Published: August 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

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 SANITATION DISTRICT ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

July 31, 2025
Total Payroll, \$18,845.92
Quickbooks Payroll Svc. Direct Deposit Fee, \$74.00
FICA: SS, Med. Fed w/h, \$5,696.92
PERA Retirement, \$6,418.14
U.S. Postal Service: Postage, \$876.83
Intuit: Payroll Subscription, \$1,100.00
Bank of the San Juan: Returned check fee, \$172.00
CEBT: Health, Dental, Vision, Life Ins., \$15,723.53
Mountain Valley Bank: Merchant Srv. Fees, \$87.03
Atmos Energy: Natural Gas Svc., \$66.17
Cimarron Telecom: Broadband, \$200.00
C.O. Analytical Lab: Nutrient Testing, \$144.00
Industrial Srv. Solutions: Maintenance on blowers, \$4,847.00
First Bank Card: Misc. Supplies, \$2,391.52
First Net AT&T: Cellphone srv., \$88.16
ERBM Rec Center: 2nd Qtr. Employee usage, \$88.00
Grainger: Misc. Supplies, \$1,867.48
Meeker Sanitation District: Lawncare, petty cash, \$100.00
Networking of the Rockies: IT Support, \$1,250.00
Rio Blanco County Fleet Dept.: Fuel, \$106.51
Rio Blanco Herald Times: Publish Accts. Payable, \$33.58
Streamline: Website Maint., \$200.00
Town of Meeker: Water Svc., \$27.10
USA BlueBook: Misc. Supplies, \$2,667.80
Valley Hardware: Misc. Supplies, \$6.99
Watt's Ranch Market: Misc. Supplies, \$44.24
WR Distributing: Bottled water, \$39.00
WREA: Electric Svc., \$5,483.06
Total Accounts Payable, \$68,644.98
Published: August 21, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
On May 21, 2025, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Rio Blanco records.
Original Grantor(s)
STEPHANIE SUSAN HENSON
Original Beneficiary(ies)
MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR HIGHLANDS RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE, LTD, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Date of Deed of Trust
2/29/2012
County of Recording
Rio Blanco
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
February 29, 2012
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
303292
Original Principal Amount
\$72,488.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$63,474.88
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(f), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
SUBLOT NO. 3 RANGELY TOWNHOUSES NO. 1 ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED SEPTEMBER 8, 1977 AS RECEPTION NO. 176834 TOWN OF RANGELY, COLORADO
Purported common address: 140 DARIUS AVE, RANGELY, CO 81648.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 09/17/2025, at Office of the Public Trustee, Rio Blanco County Courthouse, 555 Main Street, Meeker CO 81641, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication 7/24/2025
Last Publication 8/21/2025
Name of Publication Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF RIGHTS
YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF SAID STATUTES, AS SUCH STATUTES ARE PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS SHALL BE SENT WITH ALL MAILED COPIES OF THIS NOTICE. HOWEVER, YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE DETERMINED BY PREVIOUS STATUTES.
● A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-104 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED SALE DATE OR ANY DATE TO WHICH THE SALE IS CONTINUED;
● A NOTICE OF INTENT TO REDEEM FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 38-38-302 SHALL BE FILED WITH THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE NO LATER THAN EIGHT (8) BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE SALE;
● IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
● IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coag.gov
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
PO Box 27170
Washington, DC 20038
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov
DATE: 05/21/2025
Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee in and for the County of Rio Blanco, State of Colorado
By: Rhonna Waldref, Public Trustee
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
Holly Shilliday #2423
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

Leaf Filter
GUTTER PROTECTION

2025 Summer Home Protection Event!

End Cleaning Out Gutters!

Zero Clogged Gutters Guaranteed

LIFETIME TRANSFERABLE WARRANTY

✗ Without LeafFilter

✓ With LeafFilter

Promo Code: 285

CALL 855-402-9138 FOR A FREE INSPECTION!

Limited time only!*

75% OFF

Installation

Bonus offer!*

+\$250

Discount

*\$250 discount (no cash value) is for same-day signing only. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotion or offer. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. *See representative for full warranty details. See website for all terms and registration numbers. AR 36502025, AZ ROC 344627, CA 1085795, CT HIC1671520, DC 220238E11, FL CBC056676, IA C127230, ID RCE1604, LA 59594, MA 213292, MD MHIC11225, MI 262309331, 262309330, 262309329, 262309328, 262309318, 262309173, MN 8818034, MT 2661922, ND 47304, NE 50145-24, 50145-23, NV 13011328000, NH 488663, NJ 86996, OR 218254, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 107838030, VA 270516946, VT 174000871, WA LEAFRLH-763PL, WI No. 537-DCFRW-WV 00556

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SCALE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

BUY 1, GET 1

40% OFF*

PLUS

\$200 OFF

Your Entire Purchase*

MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4

OFFER ENDS 8/31

TOLL FREE 888-670-2459

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 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

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
Positions will remain open until filled.

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

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 meekerlibrary.org or stop in the library for an application. Applications will be accepted through the 26th.

PIONEERS MEDICAL CENTER

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



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

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

YARD SALES

Garage Sale/Plant Sale, 820 3rd St. (MEEKER) Aug. 22 1-5 p.m., Aug. 23 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

ELDER CARE

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

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
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

Colorado Classified Advertising Statewide Network

coloradopress
ASSOCIATION NETWORK

To place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado Newspapers for only \$300, contact your local Newspaper or email rtoledo@colopress.net

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL	Inogen
Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply, Subject to change and vary by dealer) Offer ends 9/30/25 Call 1-888-763-4659	Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call: 844-823-0293
DISH Satellite	COLORADO PRESS NETWORK
Get DISH Satellite TV+ Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards, Call Today! 1-855-720-8701	To Place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado Newspapers for \$300 Contact your local Newspaper or email rtoledo@colopress.net

FOR SALE

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



"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

Telling the story of our community since
1885.



POLL RAP HOUR

E	T	U	R	O	V	E	B	A	L	S	A		
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2	9	4	1	6	3	7	5	8
6	5	7	9	8	4	1	2	3
1	3	8	5	7	2	9	6	4
9	8	6	3	5	7	2	4	1
5	2	3	4	9	1	6	8	7
7	4	1	6	2	8	3	9	5

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Call 970.878.4017 or email ads@ht1885.com to get started.

Tell your story. ads@ht1885.com
970.878.4017

REAL ESTATE CORNER

ACREAGE VIEWS WELL-NICE HOME LARGE BARN HORSE PROPERTY

REDUCED! \$580,000

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

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

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

REGULAR DEADLINES

Editorial:
Mondays, 5 P.M.
editor@ht1885.com

Display Advertising:
Mondays, 5 P.M.
ads@ht1885.com

Classifieds/Legals:
Tuesdays, NOON
ads@ht1885.com

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 1976.7 SF garage w/ car lift.....\$765,000

65701 Hwy 64 - Enjoy river views from this single-level 3BD | 2.75BA | 2518 SF log home w/ domestic well & cistern, on 2706 acres, bordering the BLM. Reduced!.....\$560,000

4019 CR 4 - 3BD | 2BA | 1296 SF ranch-style home, outbuildings, domestic well, on 7 acres of ag meadow.....Under Contract

1135 Michael Cir - 3BD | 2.5BA | 1743 SF 2-story home on a double lot near the park & trails. Features: A/C, pellet stove, 2-car garage, vinyl fencing, & sprinkler system. Reduced!.....\$389,000

950 Cleveland St - 3BD | 3BA | 1930 SF log home w/ vaulted ceiling & 2 rock fireplaces, on an oversized lot w/ detached garage and large backyard. Reduced!.....\$370,000

302 W. Main St, Rangely - Commercially zoned, 3080 SF building w/ paved parking lot, highway frontage, great visibility. 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 & 3168 SF shop+office space. Auto Mechanic Trade Fixtures can be purchased for \$86,000. Real estate only.....\$224,000

NEW! 1058 Sage Ct - 1BD | 3/4BA | 560 SF home, stucco finish, & covered porch, on a corner lot.....\$168,500

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 6 - 2BD | 1BA | 885 SF single level w/ exterior access & 201±SF storage.....\$129,750

Unit 10 - 2BD | 1BA | 859 SF 2-story space, updated flooring, & 101±SF storage.....\$119,000

Alex Plumb Owner/Broker
sold@alexplumb.realtor • 970.420.8076

Lori Plumb Associate Broker
lori.alpinewest@gmail.com • 970.620.2233

1135 Michael Circle **643 Main Street, Meeker**

NEW LISTING



1287 CLEVELAND ST, MEEKER
\$595,000

MEEKER: Adams Lodge Outfitters: Outfitting business, camp inventory, horses, truck, trailer, and base property..... \$1,400,000

MEEKER: 4000 County Road 4: 37 acres, water, 4BD/3.5BA home, shop & greenhouse..... PENDING \$1,300,000

SILT: 5939 County Road 233: 10 acres, 4BD/2BA Home..... \$860,939

RIFLE: 3768 County Road 237: Horse friendly 40+/- acres bordering BLM, 3BD/2BA home with outbuildings... 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: 1287 Cleveland Street: Unobstructed views, oversized lot, 4BD/1.75BA log home, 30'x50' shop..... NEW! \$595,000

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 river and golf course..... \$393,000

MEEKER: 565 4th Street: Tri-level 3BD/3BA, fenced yard, spacious garage, peaceful location..... NEW! \$345,000

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..... PENDING \$49,000

970.878.7700 | Streamline-Realty.com | 600 Main Street, Meeker, CO

STREAMLINE REALTY LLC