

RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION

113th ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE
"Century Families"

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025

Fairfield Center

200 Main St., Meeker, Colorado

For more info call 970-296-2151.

Register at the Meeker Chamber
or call or text 970-296-2151.

\$50 per person, Table of ten \$450 - Doors open at 4. Dinner at 6:30 and Dance to follow!

Herald Times

140

Independent Community Journalism Since 1885

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And the winners are...



MICHELLE COX PHOTO

The winner of the 39th annual (apologies for our numerical error last week!) Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials is handler Jamie Spring and her dog Monster from Union Center, South Dakota. Spring was sponsored by Rhinehart Oil. The pair finished with a final score of 135. Classic Director Maym Cunningham commented on this year's event: "It was a great trial — seemed like everyone was happy to be here, both locals and folks from afar. A true sense of community from every faction of the event. Our gate was really good and I know the handlers made a concerted effort to shop downtown. The Jammin' Lamb Fest was well attended. Everyone joined in to celebrate the Colorado Grown and Raised meal of lamb, corn, potatoes, Greek salad, peach crisp, melon and rolls. The youth of our community were an integral part of the setup, staging and running the event. A great face and representation of what we are all about. We can't say enough about them."



NIKI TURNER PHOTO

This year's winner of the Fine Art Contest is Fay Marks of Silver City, New Mexico (left). Her piece, titled, "I've Got My Eyes on Ewe," will be the poster art for the Classic's 40th anniversary in 2026.

FINAL RESULTS:

HANDLER—DOG NAME/SEX/AGE—FROM—SPONSOR —FINAL SCORE

Spring, Jamie—Monster M:6—Union Center, SD—Rhinehart Oil - Meeker CO—135

Loiola Alves, Fernando—Mona F:5—Arlington, WA—3N Ranch - Jim Nigra Castaic CA 123

Basson, Faansie—Finn M:7—Paris, KY—Ladder Canyon Ranch - Grand Junction CO 116

Williams, Noelle—Clay M:7—Winlock, WA—Carol and Jack Donaghue - East Longmeadow MA 115

Glen, Scott—Pip M:7—New Dayton, AB—Tom Kay - Cedaredge CO 114

Fleming, Thad—Flo F: ?—Leeton, MO—Carolyn Beardshear and Mike Zimmermann-Colorado Airstream Club-Montrose CO—98

White, Bryan—Nan F:6—Bend, OR—Rick and Pam Hillman - Grand Junction CO—97

Basson, Faansie—Eddie M:4—Paris, KY—Visintainer Sheep Company - Craig CO 95

Strang, Bridget—Ken M:3—Carbondale, CO—Cole Aviation Consulting-David and Martha Cole Meeker CO 92

Scott, Milton—Bob M:6—Airdrie, AB—Melinda Parker and Stephanie Despirito - Meeker CO 91

Judd, Loreli—Dove F:5—Coalville, UT—Sandra Besseghini - Meeker CO 0

Chamberlain, Lori—Millie F:5—Solana Beach, CA—Mark Ryan-Monument View Veterinary Hospital-Grand Junction CO 0

Fairfield Apartments receive first repainting in more than 20 years



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Resident Charlotte Kurzeika relaxes on her front porch at the Fairfield Apartments, which were built in 1974 and last painted in 2001. The complex now features a fresh slate blue exterior with white trim after this summer's repainting project.

By JARED HENDERSON

jared@ht1885.com

MEEKER | After more than 20 years, the Fairfield Apartments have received a full exterior repainting, giving the housing complex a fresh, updated look.

They were built and painted in 1974 and were last painted in 2001. In between those two decades there was wear and weather that had left the buildings in need of maintenance. This past summer, the Fairfield Apartments board, in partnership with the Fairfield Center, secured funding to tackle the long overdue project.

"We weren't sure if we would have enough to cover all of the buildings," said the board's president Judy Morgan. "Depending on the amount of the grant, we thought we might only be able to do one or two buildings. Thankfully, with support of the Fairfield Center and the board's funds, we were able to repaint the entire complex."

The five-member board handled the

decision on colors. In 2001, the apartments were painted in the same shades used when the buildings were first built. This time, members wanted to make a change, but without straying too far from a conservative look.

"We didn't want anything too bold or flashy," Morgan explained. "The goal was to find something fresh, but still clean and timeless."

The board had opted for a conservative color scheme, selecting slate blue with white trim. The five-member board reviewed multiple options before reaching an agreement on a color that would refresh the property while remaining understated and inviting. The project went out for bids, with the county and Fairfield Center helping oversee the process.

From start to finish it took a four-person crew to complete the project in just five days. The project went smoothly, with no major setbacks reported.

Cont. on P2

Viewer's Choice Quilt



MICHELLE COX PHOTO / KAYE SULLIVAN CAPTION

On behalf of local P.E.O. Chapter BA, thanks to all the folks who came to visit the quilt show. 124 handmade quilts were on display at the 13th annual event, which included a bake sale. The Viewers's Choice award quilt (center) was made by Mary Tenzce and titled "Surf Song." The winner of the opportunity quilt was Mark Otterson. Funds raised provide higher education assistance for local high school graduates. P.E.O. is an international women's organization that supports women's educational opportunities. The local Meeker chapter was founded in 1919.



9/11
PATRIOT DAY
IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE



Meeker trustees review planned capital projects, discuss rising health insurance costs

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

MEEKER | Trustees met Tuesday, Sept. 2 for a regular meeting, followed by an executive session with the town's legal counsel to discuss the parks lease agreement with the Eastern Rio Blanco Metropolitan Recreation and Park District. Final payment for the Garfield Street water line project was tabled at the last

meeting contingent on final approval. Trustee Jeff Madison said the project "doesn't look complete to me," and Trustee Amanda Smith said she noticed a deep depression collecting water in the middle of the street during a recent storm and asked if that should be addressed. By Friday, Sept. 5, Town Administrator Mandi Etheridge said the issues had been resolved and final payment released. Meeker High School cross country

coach Marty Casey asked about using Ute Park for a home cross country meet on Sept. 20. "We'd be staying on existing trails as much as possible," Casey said, noting that he had evaluated the potential course. Trustees discussed potential obstacles and opportunities before approving the request. After opening bids for the Town Hall security system, trustees approved a bid from Spectra, out of Vernal, Utah.

As budget season gets underway, the board and staff reviewed capital projects that were prioritized in August, including the purchase of a new backhoe, and construction of a connecting egress between Robert Street and Sanderson Drive to allow additional emergency access from Sage Hills Subdivision. Also up for discussion were cost-of-living increases and ways to address a 13.5% increase in health insurance costs.

Water Conservancy District discusses post-fire water issues

Special to the HT

RBC | Sediment and other water quality issues related to the recent wildfires near Meeker were a topic at the August meeting of the board for the Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District (RBWCD). Rio Blanco County is working on a collaborative post-fire remediation plan and creating a response team to help gather information that will aid mitigation of present and future watershed damages from the fire. With the last rainstorms substantial water quality issues have already arisen. Betty Kracht, Rio Blanco County Water Commissioner from Divi-

sion of Water Resources (DWR) gave an update on the status of the river. During the first part of the month, river flows dropped to alarming levels with shortages seen in the Town of Rangely and west of Rangely. The big ditches around Meeker all voluntarily left 5-8 cfs of water in the river, which was shepherded to the Town of Rangely. By Aug. 19 there was an increase of 35-40 cfs in the river at Rangely. Erin Light with DWR addressed the board and discussed future administration on the river and how that would look. If the Taylor Draw Power Conduit requested a call, the Taylor Draw Dam, Kenney Reservoir, would

have to figure out how to reduce the level of the reservoir to account for the evaporation in the system. Right now, the Board is unsure whether to request a call due to the sediment in the river and uncertainties related to the fires. She also commented that the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law money intended to help with measuring devices is getting closer to being available to water users. The hydro power turbine is having the face seal repaired. It is tentatively scheduled to be in Rangely and installed within the next couple weeks. Once installed, the contractors and RBWCD will finish performing the wet tests and hopefully be back up

and running as soon as possible. According to Executive Director Alden Vanden Brink, there was a very good response to the survey with approximately 200 surveys being done. Vanden Brink mentioned he and his office were

assisting with the filling out of surveys and are gathering the results on this survey and the other surveys. The agriculture survey is still underway along with the Rangely water needs assessment. The Wolf Creek project is progressing with the EIS

(Environmental Impact Statement) studies and reports with drafts being created though no "Need and Purpose" has yet been approved. The next meeting is Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the RBWCD office.

RIO HAPPENINGS: AUG 31-SEPT. 6, 2025

ARRESTS
9/1/2025- A 41 year-old female was arrested by Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office for Domestic Violence and Second Degree Criminal Tampering. She was taken to jail.
9/4/2025- A 39 year-old male was arrested by Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office on a warrant for Contempt of Court. He was transported to jail where he remains in custody.
9/6/2025- A 62 year-old male was arrested by Meeker PD for Driving Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol/ Drugs/or Both, Failed to Drive in a Single Lane (Weaving) and Failed to present Evidence of Insurance Upon Request. He was transported to jail. He was released on 9/8/2025 on a PR bond.
9/8/2025- A 29 year-old male was arrested by Rangely PD for Violation of a Protection Order and Domestic Violence. He was transported to jail where he remains in custody.

in the making of this tantrum. The suspect was taken into custody without incident for pointing his handgun at two other hunters. He believed their bird hunting was interrupting his archery hunt.
9/4/2025 @ 6:04 pm. A suspicious incident in the area of 8th & Market St. involving two adult males pushing a shopping cart and looking like they were going to fight was reported by a passerby. Upon arrival, the officer

determined the men were just "fooling around." The hooligans were advised to return the cart to the store.
9/6/2025 @ 10:22 pm. A traffic complaint regarding a possible intoxicated driver starting in the town limits of Meeker ended in a DUI arrest when a deputy located the vehicle near the 32 mile-marker on Highway 13. He was taken into custody for DUI and taken to jail.

(Cont.) Fresh paint for Fairfield Apts.

Cont. from P1

Morgan said she has already heard so many great responses from community members about the apartments' refreshed appearance. Board members hope the repainting not only improves the appearance of the apartments but also enhances the experience for residents, creating a sense of pride and community. Rio Blanco County Commissioner Doug Overton praised the project, highlighting its importance in the broader context of community housing. "The Fairfield Apartments are a vital part of senior housing in the Meeker community, and the County is grateful for the work that went into this update," Overton said. "As resources tighten, the County is

committed to working with the Town and other stakeholders to ensure this vulnerable population continues to be well served. At the same time, we are actively reviewing and developing a comprehensive strategic plan to address all county infrastructure, with the goal of providing sustainable support for essential services and facilities into the future." With the project complete, the Fairfield Apartments now carry a renewed look that the board hopes will last for years to come. Attention will remain on upkeep as needed, but for the time being, the fresh exterior serves as both a practical improvement and a visible reminder of the community's investment in the property.

TOTAL CALLS: 316 — 911 CALLS: 18 — ADMIN: 298		
CALL TYPE	SHERIFF	MEEKER PD
911	6	1
ALARM - FIRE	1	1
ANIMAL	3	6
ASSAULT	1	0
ASSIST COLORADO STATE PATROL	3	1
ASSIST MEEKER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT	1	2
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	1	0
ASSIST RANGELY POLICE DEPT	2	0
ATTEMPT TO SERVE	4	0
BUSINESS CHECK	2	5
CIVIL	1	4
CODE ENFORCEMENT	0	1
CRASH	0	1
DEATH	0	1
DIRECTED PATROL	1	19
DISTURBANCE	0	1
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	1	0
FOLLOW UP	1	2
FRAUD	1	0
HARASSMENT	0	1
INFORMATION	4	2
LPR HIT	1	0
MOTORIST ASSIST	1	1
PHONE FOLLOW-UP	2	4
SMOKE REPORT	3	1
SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT	1	1
THEFT	1	1
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	2	1
TRAFFIC HAZARD	5	0
TRAFFIC STOP	11	7
VIN INSPECTION	1	2
WARRANT ARREST	1	0
WELFARE CHECK	1	3
TOTALS	62	69
TOTAL INMATES IN JAIL AS OF 9/9/2025: 5		

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The combined economic impact of 6 new full-time jobs created \$1.5M in direct, indirect, and induced payroll, and more than \$3M in direct, indirect, and induced value added, a measure of the contribution to GDP, for a total of **\$18.9M** in direct financial support to the local community.

100 PMC Drive
Meeker, CO 81641
(970) 878-5047
www.pioneershospital.org

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Open Drop-in Community Meeting TODAY for Landowners Affected by the Lee & Elk Fires

MEEKER | We understand there are many challenges following the recent fires, and we want to ensure landowners have support and clear information moving forward. Join us for an open, drop-in, community meeting where staff from the BLM, Rio Blanco County, and the Conservation Districts will be on hand to listen, answer questions, and share resources TODAY, Thursday, Sept. 11 from 1-4 p.m. at the Fire Protection District.

Circle Park to remain closed through September

MEEKER | Circle Park will remain closed through September as Phase III work continues. Remaining tasks include installation of a permanent ADA-accessible vault toilet, new grass growth, irrigation, and other key features. These upgrades will serve to ensure the park is more comfortable, functional, and sustainable for future use. In the meantime, please continue using the improved access points at 3rd and 10th Streets for your river recreation. Thank you for your patience as we work to complete this final stage of the project.

Silent Auction to support Meeker Volunteer Fire Dept.

MEEKER | River Rhythms is hosting a silent auction at Bank of the San Juans now through Sept. 12. All proceeds will go to the Meeker Volunteer Fire Department.

Items available for auction are on display inside the bank lobby. Come by and bid during regular bank hours. Winners will be announced and notified Sept. 15.

Surveys open for wildfire impact

MEEKER | Thorough documentation of damages and loss from the wildfires is essential for recovery and mitigation efforts. If you are a business owner, a rural landowner, an agricultural producer, or an outfitter, please complete one of the following surveys: **BUSINESS OWNERS**, <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/5e-da5d67a83a4a3184e96ca7a21e7318>. **AG PRODUCERS, OUTFITTERS & RURAL LANDOWNERS**, please complete the team's Ag and Natural Resources Survey: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfyTEB3K-7JNYKqKw835-fxCHsD9244OgRHIVHqx95JLwPKYQ/viewform?pli=1>

First AID/CPR certification Sept. 20

MEEKER | ERBM is offering an American Red Cross/First Aid/CPR Course on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Meeker Rec Center. Cost is \$75 and includes all certification fees. Register at erbmec.com/firstaid by Sept. 15. For questions or registration help, call 970-878-3403.

Family Night Luau Pool Party Sept. 18

MEEKER | Bring the whole family to the MRC Pool Thursday, Sept. 18, and enjoy extended hours from 4-7 p.m. We'll be hosting a Luau Party with games, inflatables, and special surprises! Normal MRC drop-in fees apply. Members: Free, Tots 0-3: Free, Kids 4-12:

\$4/each, Youth 13-17: \$5/each, Adults 18-61: \$7/each, Seniors 62+: \$5/each. Towels are available to rent for \$1 plus collateral. Participants ages 7 and under must be accompanied in the water by someone 13 or older at all times. All other pool rules apply.

Volunteers wanted for National Public Lands Day project Sept. 20

MEEKER | ERBM and BLM invite you to celebrate National Public Lands Day by volunteering to improve our local trails on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and will start at the Ute Park trailhead (12th and Hill St.) Bring a sack lunch, plenty of water, and sunscreen! Participants will receive a T-shirt, drinks, and a snack courtesy of BLM. Youth 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Fairfield Trust grant applications due on Wednesday, Oct. 1

MEEKER | Applications for the October semi-annual Fairfield Trust grants are due Wednesday, Oct. 1. Applications available at the Herald Times office (304 4th St.) and mailed to P.O. Box 2302 or dropped off at White River Electric Association (Attn: J.H.).



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.



Be thankful for the bad things in life. For they opened our eyes to the good things you weren't paying attention to before.

Kermit the Frog

THIS SPACE PAID FOR BY AN ANONYMOUS SUPPORTER OF OUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER.

Goodbye Summer,
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\$2.49 lb.



Chicken Tenderloins
All Natural

\$4.29 lb.

FRESH PRODUCE SPECIALS



Apples
Sweet Ambrosia or Cosmic Crisp

\$1.29 lb.



Blueberries or Blackberries
6 oz. Package Juicy

2/\$5



Tomatoes
Red Cluster

\$1.29 lb.



Avocados
Large Ripe

3/\$5



Crimini Mushrooms
8 oz. Package Whole or Sliced

\$2.49 ea.

DAIRY & FROZEN SPECIALS

Butter
Food Club 1 lb. Salted or Unsalted **\$3.49**

Yogurt
Food Club 6 oz. Select Varieties **10/\$4**

Cheese
Food Club 32 oz. Select Varieties Shredded or Block **\$5.99**

Greek Yogurt
Chobani 5.3 oz. Select Varieties **\$1.19**

Waffles
Kellogg's Eggo 24 ct. Select Varieties **\$4.99**

Tea
Gold Peak 52 oz. Select Varieties **2/\$5**

GROCERY SPECIALS

Potatoes Your Way
Tasteful Selections 16 oz. Select Varieties **2/\$6**

Orange Juice
Food Club 52 oz. Select Varieties **2/\$7**

Cake Mix
Betty Crocker 13.25-14.25 oz. Select Varieties **\$1.49**

Pasta
Food Club 19-25 oz. Select Varieties Tortellini or Ravioli **\$3.49**

Snacks
Fritos, Cheetos or Tostitos 6.5-13 oz. Select Varieties **2/\$7**

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Recalibrating our moral compass

"There are times, sir, when men of good conscience cannot blindly follow orders." ~ Captain Jean-Luc Picard, Star Trek

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



In the Pirates of the Caribbean movies, Captain Jack Sparrow zealously guards a broken compass, insisting that the compass will point the way to the holder's true desires. We all know that's not how compasses work, even magical ones, but it seems many are applying that faulty logic to decision-making these days. Positions are taken and decisions made based on what we want, for ourselves, period, as if we are the only

ones who count in the equation (because, in our own minds, we're right and most deserving, of course).

By definition, a moral compass is a set of internal beliefs about right and wrong that guides one's decisions and actions. It's based on our core values (which most of us can barely identify). Often, our moral compass is based on some kind of higher code, whether legal or spiritual. Think Star Trek's Prime Directive: non-interference with other cultures and civilizations, even with good intentions. (I've got Star Trek on the brain this week because the very first episode aired on Sept. 8, 1966. The originals are still my favorites to watch.) In season af-

ter season, characters faced the dilemma of whether to violate the Prime Directive, and when they did, there was always hell to pay. Or at least an invasion of tribbles. Violating one's moral compass comes with a cost, the kind you only find out about after the fact, when it's too late to back out of the deal.

Consistently choosing the higher good is rarely a smooth road, either. Sometimes it's easier to let people get away with bad behavior than it is to hold them accountable. Sometimes it's easier to give ourselves a "pass" for our own misdeeds because we're prone to justifying our own actions while simultaneously condemning others for theirs.

Watching people, especially those in positions of influence, perpetually get away with moral turpitude consequence-free has a negative effect on us individually and collectively. It's like putting a rusty nail next to a compass, deflecting the needle away from true north. If they can misbehave and get away with it, the human ego reasons, then so can we. And that, dear readers, is how we end up with a busted moral compass that only shows us what we want to see.

We need to get rid of the rusty nails skewing the needle, and recalibrate to our core values, those lofty ideals that time after time drag humanity back from the brink of self-destruction.

HISTORY LESSONS: 9/11

By **ED PECK**
Special to the HT

Nine, one, one; Nine hundred and eleven; Nine eleven. Amazing how three digits in the English language evoke different emotions depending on how you say them. Now, we must be careful not to say "call nine, one, one" within artificial earshot of an Alexa device. A knock on the door from a friendly policeman could result. At least, for the time being, it will be a real person who might be sympathetic to our explanation rather than Robo-cop from the future.

If you are over 45, the words "nine, eleven" flash back to a time and a place: September 11, 2001. I am old enough to be able to answer two questions:

Where were you when the announced J.F. Kennedy's assassination?

Where was I when the TV stations all turned cameras to watch the twin towers billow smoke and collapse?

The first answer is, on my grade school playground in 1963. I remember being upset, even though I vaguely knew the name of our president. Days later we all stayed home to watch the funeral procession on our black and white television.

On 9/11/2001, I was opening at work and someone called to me over to see the news program across the hall. We stood mesmerized by the images. The top of the North Tower was engulfed in black smoke like a shiny emergency flare.

We watched, as cameras recorded the second plane hitting the other tower. Those few moments were replayed over and over, as was the collapse, hours later.

We worked the whole day, but in the background was more horror and confusion as authorities released information on damage at the Pentagon and a fourth hijacked airliner crashing in a Pennsylvania field. Aviation was grounded all over America.

After days of rehashing the sequence of events, estimates of innocent lives lost and rescue efforts, psychiatrists recommended not letting children be continually exposed to the images of the terrorist attacks. Schools were reporting a rise in anger and

violent behavior.

It is in the past now. A memorial was erected in New York City, a new tourist attraction with sad emotions pervading it. One of the commissions studying 9/11 recommended that a new emergency response organization be created. One that would be trained to handle future catastrophic events.

New York City created the FDNY Incident Management Team that pulled together firefighters from all five boroughs. They wisely modeled their team structure on existing national Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT). One of those national teams had re-

sponded to the call for help during the chaos following 9/11.

I met one of those team members this month. She was working with CIM Team 1, here in Meeker. It still bothers her to talk about her experiences in 2001.

Later, after shadowing and training with teams handling wildland firefighters, the FNDY team became proficient in handling wildland fires, nuclear hazmat, and flooding. Every year since then, the FDNY Incident Team feels compelled to help others outside NYC. They send out a small portion of their active personnel to be part of the national CIMT.

If you have ever talked to a NYC native, you will understand that they are way outside their comfort zone. Some worked 16 and 18 hour days containing the last of the Lee Fire here.

On Aug. 25, the FDNY Incident Team took over for the Northern Rockies Complex Incident Team 1, completing a circle.

When New York City called for help, a CIMT responded in their time of need. Now the New York firefighters were paying back the favor from 9/11.

Someday, our chance will come in Meeker to pay it back. Are we ready and willing to get outside our comfort zone to do it?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Former Rangely mayor remembers Nickson

Dear Editor:

I read with sadness the obituary announcement of the passing of Shirley Kay Nickson. I recall with fondness an incident involving Kay in her capacity as the Animal Control Officer in Rangely. My elderly 13-year-old collie was experiencing seizures, crying out in terrible pain. Not knowing what else to do, I called Kay. She came to the house, determined there was no hope for Cinnamon, and gave her a shot. Cinnamon quieted and died peacefully, laying on the couch next to me, with her head in my lap. I will forever be indebted to Kay for her service that sad day. She was one of the good ones from my years in Rangely.

Very truly yours,
Donald Peach
Longview, Washington

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HOPEWEST — GUEST COLUMN: Transforming fear into confidence

Special to the HT

MEEKER | When facing life challenges related to aging, illness, or grief, it's common to feel a sense of worry or uncertainty about what lies ahead. Navigating medical and daily needs can be overwhelming, and for some, asking for help may feel like you're "giving up" or even "failing."

At HopeWest, we want to assure you that seeking support is none of that. In fact, seeking support is often a necessary step toward peace of mind.

Through programs like palliative care and grief and bereavement services, we've seen firsthand how the proper care can transform fear into confidence.



Kirsten Vogelsang
HopeWest

For more than 30 years, families across western Colorado have trusted HopeWest to show up, listen, and walk alongside them through life's most challenging seasons.

Kirsten Vogelsang, a HopeWest nurse practitioner, finds purpose in the meaningful conversations

she shares with patients, especially during admissions. "Seeing people go from being fearful to really embracing our services over the course of our conversations is really powerful," she said.

Teammates like Kirsten guide families through open, honest conversations to help them understand what to expect and how our programs can support them.

"HopeWest is providing that personal touch with individual plans of care. We are not treating people as if they are their disease or illness. We are treating them as an individual." She said. "Everything is tailored to the patient, we are there for you."

This approach is the thread that runs through every part of HopeWest. From grief and bereavement support to palliative care, we've built specialized teams that work together to care for the whole person and their family.

While these are familiar paths to us, we acknowledge that they can often be new and challenging journeys for families. That's why education, listening, and responding with compassion are so necessary.

"I feel successful when the families I talk to feel calm, empowered, and confident about the plan going forward," said Kirsten. "It's our job to make sure our people are safe and taken care of in all aspects

of their care, even beyond medical needs."

Whether someone is navigating complex decisions or simply trying to manage pain or fatigue, our team helps ensure that care aligns with their values and priorities. This philosophy is part of what has made HopeWest a trusted part of our community. A recent family satisfaction survey showed that 94% of families would recommend HopeWest to others, reflecting the trust and connection that defines our work.

If you're caring for someone who wants to remain safely in their home, managing a serious illness, grieving the loss of a loved one, or simply needing sup-

port, you don't have to do it alone. HopeWest is here to support you with compassion, confidence, and care that transforms feelings of fear into confidence.

About HopeWest

HopeWest is a nonprofit organization committed to profoundly transforming the way communities across western Colorado experience aging, serious illness, and grief. Each year, we serve more than 3,700 individuals with exceptional care. HopeWest continues to be a trusted source of comfort, healing, and hope for generations to come.

If you or a loved one could benefit from our services, don't wait. Call 970-878-9383 or visit HopeWestCo.org/meet-kirsten to connect with us through our online contact form.

Colorado native Dr. Joshua Mares joins Colorado Advanced Orthopedics in Meeker

PRESS RELEASE

MEEKER | Colorado Advanced Orthopedics, Sports Medicine and Spine (CAO) continues to expand its distinguished team of fellowship-trained specialists with the addition of Dr. Joshua Mares, MD, a Colorado native and specialist in adult hip and knee reconstruction.

Dr. Mares joins CAO following the completion of a fellowship in adult reconstruction at Ortho San Antonio, where he received advanced training in complex hip and knee replacement surgeries. His expertise builds upon a strong foundation established during a five-year orthopedic surgery residency at the University of Colorado, where he served as chief resident. He earned his medical degree from the University of Colorado School of Medicine and a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Colorado College.

Raised in communities across the state, including Denver, Aurora, Littleton, Sedalia, Fort Morgan, and Castle Rock, Dr. Mares credits his upbringing and family experiences for shaping his career path and values.

"My grandmother played a significant role in my life, and her passing from lung cancer when I was 10 deeply inspired my pursuit of a career in medicine," said Dr. Mares. "Although no one else in my family worked in healthcare, my summers spent working construction alongside my stepfather taught me the importance of hard work, perseverance, and craftsmanship—skills that I rely on daily as an orthopedic surgeon."

Dr. Mares brings to CAO a deep appreciation for patient-centered care and collaborative practice environments.

"What drew me to join Colorado Advanced

Orthopedics was the exceptional practice developed by Dr. Borchard," he said. "His dedication to providing compassionate and individualized patient care resonated deeply with me."

In addition to his surgical expertise, Dr. Mares is passionate about optimizing the entire continuum of care for his patients.

"My approach to patient care centers on building meaningful and lasting relationships. I see myself not only as a surgeon but also as a coach, providing my patients with all the resources and guidance necessary for a successful surgery and recovery," he said. "I have a deep passion for optimizing every aspect of perioperative care—factors like nutrition, physical therapy, pain

management, and overall wellness—that significantly influence surgical outcomes."

Practicing in north-west Colorado also holds personal significance for Dr. Mares.

"Practicing in this region is particularly rewarding because of the hardworking, genuine people who make up the community," he said. "I deeply value their resilience and dedication, and it motivates me every day to provide exceptional care tailored to their active lifestyles."

Dr. Mares will provide care as part of CAO's nationally recognized team, which includes Dr. Kevin Borchard, Dr. Gregg Martyak, Dr. Mark Purnell, Dr. J. Alex Sielatycki, Dr. Alejandro Miranda, Dr. Dan Ward, Dr. Justin Grant,

and Dr. Karen Frye.

"We're proud to welcome Dr. Mares to the CAO team. His exceptional training, deep Colorado roots, and genuine commitment to personalized care make him an ideal addition to our practice," said Dr. Kevin Borchard, Chief Surgical Officer at CAO. "Dr. Mares brings not only advanced surgical expertise but also a passion for treating the whole patient. That philosophy is at the heart of everything we do here."

As CAO continues to invest in top-tier surgical talent, leadership at Pioneers Medical Center echoes the importance of this expansion.

"At Pioneers Medical Center, we continuously strive to elevate care for our rural Colorado communities. Dr. Mares's

arrival strengthens our commitment to providing advanced orthopedic services right here at home. His expertise and dedication align perfectly with our mission to deliver compassionate, high-quality care," said Liz Sellers, Chief Executive Officer of Pioneers Medical Center.

Outside of the operating room, Dr. Mares enjoys fly fishing, hunting, fitness, and spending time with his wife, Penelope.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with Dr. Mares, visit www.coloradoadvancedorthopedics.com or call 970-878-9752.

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Sports & Recreation

Cowboys fire on all cylinders in De Beque sweep

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com

MEEKER | After a week-end off, the Meeker High School volleyball team returned to the court Friday and opened September with a road sweep at De Beque.

The Cowboys entered the contest with a 2-2 record after losing Aug. 23 at the Glenwood Springs tournament to Coal Ridge. This time, they came away with a decisive win, taking all three sets 25-9, 25-17 and 25-13.

The last time the two teams played was Sept. 6, 2024, when Meeker won 3-1. Head coach Greg Cravens said energy was an area his team is still working to improve.

"I thought we could be better with our energy," Cravens said. "The kids talked a lot this week about it, so I'm sure we'll fix that pretty quick."

Senior Rylee Sullivan led the Cowboys' offense with 10 kills, four aces and a .571 hitting percentage. She said De Beque's defensive positioning opened opportunities.

"DeBeque played very deep so putting the ball really short or really long worked," Sullivan said. "They didn't have the

greatest technique which made it easier to score. As far as finding openings on defense, I just worked on putting the ball on their side and near the setter's position."

Sullivan said serving runs were also a major factor. "It was important to keep the pressure on from the line because it gave us a run," she said. "I try to be confident and consistent when setting up a big swing."

On defense, senior libero Braydin Raley finished with nine digs and nine serve receptions. She said Meeker's game plan shifted when De Beque's top hitter was unavailable that evening.

"Going into De Beque this week, we were planning on their big hitter giving us a run, but she was injured so she didn't play," Raley said. "Their other hitters, however, weren't very threatening; nothing was hard driven or specifically placed giving us lots of time to read and react. It's my job to stay calm in the back row and to help my teammates be calm too, however most of the serves from last night were easy to read and get two feet under."

Raley added that her role is about supporting teammates. "It's not my

job to make myself look good, it's to make my setters and hitters look good," she said. "I may not get a lot of recognition from people off the court, but my team sees me."

She also emphasized the importance of communication. "As a libero, one of my main jobs is to communicate with my teammates. I've been working on being louder and more talkative on the court and bench," Raley said.

Sophomore setter Hailey Schwartz directed the offense with 14 assists, averaging 4.7 per set. She said her focus is on setting up hitters in the best positions.

"My main focus while setting was to be able to place the ball in the best spot for all of my hitters to shine with a kill," Schwartz said. "To decide who gets the ball in each situation, I think about tricking the other team and setting up a spot that is unexpected. In a situation where the ball is closer to the outside position, I try to set it to the middle or right side, which gives us a better chance to have one blocker against us instead of two. In a situation where I have a perfect pass, I'll set it to the person who hasn't gotten to hit for a little bit so they can get that kill."

Schwartz said balancing speed and accuracy is critical. "To balance speed and accuracy, I think about who I'm going to set based on the situation while I'm getting to the ball. Then, I'll quickly make the decision and get my feet set so I can make an accurate set to the spot I chose," she said. "It is such an exciting moment when the hitters make an amazing kill. I love seeing what they can do with my sets and it's really awesome to celebrate the point with them after."

The Cowboys will host Vail Christian in their home opener Friday, Sept. 12, before traveling to Soroco on Saturday Sept. 13. Cravens said the team is focusing on defense and offensive execution.

"Our blocking is gonna have to be a lot better. They've got one really big hitter that we're gonna have to stop," Cravens said. "Offensively, I think we need to find the court a little bit more. We're kind of just hitting it, and I'm not sure we controlled where we wanted to hit it."

Consistency will also be a point of emphasis. "I just want to see the energy level stay for the whole match instead of up and down, it's kind of a roller coaster right now," Cra-



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO

Meeker senior No. 10 Rylee Sullivan prepares to serve during the Cowboys' road match against De Beque on Friday, Sept. 6. Sullivan led the offense with 10 kills and four aces.

vens said. The Cowboys' C team opens play at 3 p.m. Friday, followed by JV at 4 p.m. and varsity at 5 p.m. against Vail Christian. On Saturday, Meeker will travel to Soroco to face the Rams in their first league road test of the season. Good luck to the Cowboys this weekend as they host their home opener in front of the hometown fans.

Lady Panthers take lessons from first road trip into upcoming matches

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com

RANGELY | The Rangely High School volleyball team went on the road for the first time this season, falling to Caprock Academy on Friday, Sept. 5, before taking North Fork to five sets on Saturday, Sept. 6.

Against Caprock, freshman No. 4 Teagan Behunin and senior No. 7 Addison Scott led the Panthers at the net, each finishing with eight kills. Behunin posted a team-high .400 hitting percentage, while Scott hit .333 and added two blocks.

From the service line, Behunin recorded four aces and seven total points, matched by Scott's seven points. Senior No. 6 Kaelyn Geer was a perfect 7-for-7 serving with two aces.

Sophomore No. 10 Rylee Kenney paced the offense with 14 assists, while sophomore No. 11

Isabella Cox added nine. On defense, Geer anchored the back row with 12 digs, followed by Behunin and sophomore No. 14 Natalie Bollinger with six apiece.

The Panthers lost the first set 25-13, won the second 25-18, and dropped the next two by scores of 25-15 and 25-14 in a 3-1 defeat.

"We really worked well together as a team. We had a very off night but still had good things happen," head coach Angie Hill said.

Despite falling behind in points, Hill noted the players' resilience. "The girls' attitudes and effort stayed positive. They didn't just roll over and give up," she said. "Our growth mentally has improved so much over the last few weeks."

On Saturday, the Panthers traveled to Hotchkiss to face North Fork. Rangely battled to five sets before falling 3-2.

Senior No. 13 Aubrianna Tapia led the Panthers with nine kills and a .250

hitting percentage. Scott followed with eight kills and five blocks, while senior No. 5 Courtney Files added seven kills.

Behunin had another big performance from the service line with 10 aces and 17 total points. Kenney added 10 points, Cox served up four aces and eight points, and sophomore No. 17 Taylor Fouch chipped in two aces and nine points.

Kenney directed the offense with 18 assists, and Cox added 11. Geer anchored the defense with 22 digs, followed by Fouch with 13 and Behunin

with 12. In serve receive, Fouch stood out with 30 receptions and no errors, while Geer added 23 and Behunin 17.

"We discussed using the game the night before to fuel us to do better. The girls were much more focused and had more intensity on Saturday," Hill said. "The girls showed up ready to play on Saturday despite the early leave time. I was proud of how they didn't let the night before defeat them."

Rangely (4-3) will travel to Moffat County on Tuesday, Sept. 9, return home Friday, Sept. 12, to

host Caprock, and close out the weekend at Vail Mountain on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Hill said she hopes to see steady progress as the team enters a busy stretch of matches. "I feel like we are doing great but still have a lot to improve on. We are just taking it one game at a time," she said. "I just want to see the girls improve individually and as a team every week."

Good luck to the Lady Panthers this week as they play a busy schedule starting in Moffat County on Tuesday night, Sept. 9 — and go Panthers!

Panthers host Dove Creek Bulldogs



The Panthers hosted the Dove Creek Bulldogs on Sept. 5 for the annual Bleed Green Lancaster Foundation game. The Panthers started the game on defense. It only took a few plays and the defense caused the first turnover of the game. Offensive drives were stalled by multiple penalties. Both teams fought through a tough game with the Panthers falling 16-22. The Panthers will host Dolores on Sept. 12 and will be looking to get into the win column.

MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO



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Athlos Life wrestling season

MEEKER | Preseason parents' meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. in the front seating area at Meeker High School.
Competitive folkstyle season start date: Monday, Dec. 1 at 5:30 p.m. at 301 Rimrock Drive Meeker, Colorado.
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Lady Cowboys split road doubleheader, set sights on Rifle at home

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com

MEEKER | The Meeker High School softball team split a doubleheader on the road against Basalt on Saturday. Both teams entered the matchup with 1-8 records and looking to add to the win column.

The last time the Cowboys faced the Longhorns was Sept. 7, 2024, when Meeker swept the doubleheader at home with wins of 17-11 and 10-5. This time, the two programs traded results, with Basalt taking the opener 22-15 and Meeker bouncing back for an 18-8 victory in game two. The split pushed the Cowboys' record to 2-9.

Head coach Megan Kuper said her team started strong in the first game but could not overcome one difficult inning in the field.

"We started that game really strong in the first couple of innings and were swinging the bats well," Kuper said. "Unfortunately, we had one bad inning that we just couldn't

recover from. That's something we're still working on — limiting our errors in the field and making teams earn their runs instead of giving them away. But I was proud of how the girls kept battling offensively and didn't give up at the plate."

In the second game, Meeker tightened up defensively and carried more confidence at the plate.

"The players really focused on tightening things up defensively and cleaning up the mistakes that hurt us in the first game," Kuper said. "They also came in with more confidence at the plate and strung together quality at-bats. We had strong leadership from our veterans — Kailynn Watson, Emma Bauer, Addie Knowles, Autumn Stallings, and Kayla Castillo — and that steady presence really helped set the tone for everyone else."

Kuper called the win "huge" for the team's confidence.

"To bounce back after a tough first game and come out with a convincing win

really showed the players that they're capable of responding the right way," she said. "For our younger girls especially, that experience builds confidence. Every game they're gaining more and more understanding of batting, fielding, and game situations, and you can see the improvement."

Meeker now turns its attention to its home opener Tuesday, Sept. 17, at 5 p.m. against Rifle. The Cowboys opened their season at Rifle on Aug. 19 with a 15-3 loss.

"Playing Rifle in the season opener was a challenge because we were still figuring things out as a team," Kuper said. "This time around, we've got more games under our belt, and that gives us some confidence knowing it doesn't have to look the same as it did the first time."

Kuper said the team is emphasizing accountability heading into the home opener.

"The girls are excited for the home opener



BILLIE JENSEN PHOTO

Meeker junior catcher Kayla Castillo (3) runs to tag a runner during the Cowboys' game at Basalt on Saturday. Billie Jensen photo

and are working hard on accountability — learning to move on quickly from mistakes instead of dwelling on them," Kuper said. "A win at home would be special for the players, but no matter what, we're focused on using this game to build. With a bye week ahead, we'll have some valuable time to work on the skills that will help us be more successful as the season goes on."

She added that growth has been evident despite the record.

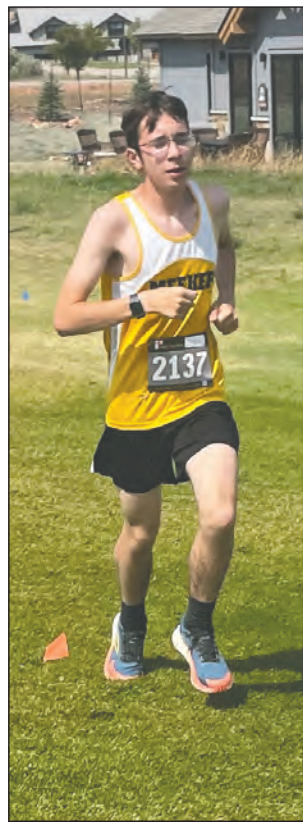
"Our veterans are doing a great job leading the way, and our younger girls are stepping up with more confidence every game," Kuper said. "We're seeing better approaches at the plate, sharper defense, and smarter decisions in game situations. The record doesn't always show it, but the progress is there,

and that gives me a lot of optimism for where this group can go."

Meeker will look to build on the momentum from its win over Basalt when it hosts Rifle in its home opener next Wednesday at 5 p.m. at Paintbrush Park. The Cowboys enter the matchup at 2-9 but continue to emphasize growth and consistency as the season moves forward.

Cowboys prepare for Coal Ridge

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Meeker senior Cameron Hanberg competes in the boys race at the Eagle Valley Invitational in Gypsum on Saturday. Hanberg finished 100th overall with a time of 21:19.

MEEKER | The Meeker High School and Barone Middle School cross country teams raced Saturday at the Eagle Valley Invitational, hosted at the Siena Valley Club in Gypsum.

Barone Middle School fielded four runners in the 3K race. Arionah Gutierrez led the group with a 31st-place finish in 15 minutes, 40 seconds. Gracelyn Walker and Jayna Damitz ran side by side, finishing 57th and 58th in 18:29 and 18:30. Jaylyn Tatum made her season debut, placing 74th in 20:20.

MHS senior Haylee Steele represented Meeker in the girls race, finishing 146th out of 205 runners with a time of 28:31.

The boys placed 15th in team scoring. Sophomore Bradley Conrado paced the team with a 67th-place finish in 20:17. Freshman Landon Damitz had a breakout race, setting a

personal record of 20:27 for 74th place. Sophomore Ryan Hanberg was Meeker's third scorer, finishing 82nd in 20:41. His brother, senior Cameron Hanberg, crossed in 100th at 21:19.

Sophomore Ashton Tapia rounded out the team scoring in 138th at 22:49. Sophomore Asa Scofield set a personal record of 31:11 for 212th, and senior Remy Broussard followed in 213th at 31:18.

Head coach Marty Casey said he was encouraged by the team's effort and progress. "We had another weekend of good weather and great competition," Casey said. "Bradley had a solid performance, and Landon really stepped it up this week."

The Cowboys return to competition Friday morning at the Coal Ridge Invitational, held at VIX Park in New Castle. Middle school races begin at 8 a.m., followed by the high school girls at 9 a.m. and the boys at 9:45 a.m.

Peewee Mustangs score big win



TIFFANY JEHOUREK PHOTO

The Meeker Mustang 3rd/4th grade football team turned in a dominating performance, surging to a 28-0 lead by the start of the fourth quarter leading to a Mustang win against Glenwood Springs.

Panther cross country competes in Gypsum; Wren takes 3rd

Special to the HT

RANGELY | Rangely's cross country teams faced a new challenge this past weekend, competing at the Siena Valley Golf Course in Gypsum. The race, which included numerous 3A, 4A, and 5A teams, was a change of pace from their last meet, with runners navigating a soft, grassy course with rolling hills.

The middle school runners kicked things off. In a field of 82 girls, Dani

Thayn ran a solid race, finishing in the middle of the pack with a time of 15:27.

The boys' race featured 108 competitors. Rhys Talbot led the team with a time of 13:47, and Dax Halcomb followed with a time of 16:08.

The girls' race saw an impressive 205 runners toe the line. Taya Wren had an outstanding performance, taking an early lead with the top pack and holding on to finish third overall with a time

of 20:39. Faith Prieto was the second finisher for the team, coming in at 27:27. Kylee Caldwell ran a great race, finishing with a time of 30:33, followed closely by Addie Thayn at 30:53. Country Casto rounded out the team with a time of 32:22.

The boys' race was equally competitive, with 215 runners. Jay Valdez led the Rangely boys with a time of 19:34. Tavan Morgan had a strong race at 20:06, with Kyler Fouts

just 12 seconds behind him at 20:18. Antonio Prieto finished with a time of 23:13, while Alec Gillard came in at 23:57. Titus Friedrich and Gage Nielsen ran most of the race together, with Friedrich pulling ahead at the end to finish in 24:16 and Nielsen in 24:52.

The middle school team will take the next week off. The high school team, however, will be back in action at the Demon Invite in Arvada, where they will get another opportunity to compete against a diverse field of athletes.



MATT SCOGGINS PHOTO

Taya Wren finished third overall for the Panthers at the Gypsum cross country meet.

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Meeker Falls to Wiggins, looks ahead to home opener

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO
Meeker junior Said Rodriguez (5) races up the field on a punt return during Friday night's matchup against Wiggins. Rodriguez was a key playmaker for the Cowboys in all three phases of the game.

MEEKER | The Meeker High School football team hit the road Friday night, traveling to Wiggins to take on the Tigers in a non league matchup. The two teams last met in September 2024, when Wiggins defeated the Cowboys 27-12 in Meeker.

This time, the Cowboys came up short again, falling 26-16 to open the season 0-2.

"We had a tough one Friday. We played hard, just came up a little short," head coach Andy Coryell said. "Ton of improvement from week one. We're gonna keep stacking good practices together and see if we can get some things cleaned up."

Junior quarterback Cade Mills accounted for 100 total yards, rushing for 75 and throwing for 25, including a touchdown pass. He said balance was key against the Wiggins defense.

"The balance between pass and run is very important in our offense," Mills said. "As the game gets longer the defense is expecting the run, so we have to balance it out and spread the defense with some plays in the air."

Junior running back Said Rodriguez was the Cowboys' biggest playmaker, rushing for 115 yards and a touchdown. He finished with 124 all-purpose yards, two total touchdowns, a conversion, and also made an impact on defense with 19 tackles and a forced fumble.

Rodriguez said his 50-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter stood out to him most.

"My teammates were still giving their best despite losing by double digits," he said. "Football is super important to me so I give it all I can. I will continue with this confidence for Gunnison and keep giving my best throughout the week."

Senior Tristin Rollins also had a strong performance, rushing for 57 yards on offense while leading the defense with 18 tackles.

"My mindset is the same as every game — think about how I can improve and keep my head in it," Rollins said. "As a senior, I try to keep a positive mood before and after games to motivate the rest of the team."

Junior Tucker Chinn was another versatile contributor, recording 11 tackles (seven solo), an interception, and a forced fumble. He also returned a kickoff 41 yards.

"I just love the game and that motivates me on every snap," Chinn said. "Our two main focuses are tackles and turnovers. Our defense saw some opportunities, and I was just in the right spot at the right time."

Freshman Jake Grieser made an impact on special teams with a 33-yard kickoff return and a tackle. He explained what it was like to make a big play, how he has adjusted to the speed and physicality of high school football, and what he has learned from older teammates like Rodriguez, Rollins, and Chinn.

"I was just grateful to be able to contribute to the team," Grieser said. "High school sports are much more physical, competitive, and fast paced. Our team is lucky to have great teammates and upperclassmen that are leaders both on and off the field."

The Cowboys (0-2) will make their home debut Friday night at Starbuck Stadium against the Gunnison Cowboys (0-2). Gunnison is coming off a 47-7 loss to Delta on September 5th. Head Coach Andy Coryell explained the excitement with the upcoming home opener on Friday night.

"Pretty excited that we don't have to ride a bus this week," Coryell said. "But Gunnison will be another good test. JV plays Monday, and I'm excited to see the young guys get to play someone else."

Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m. Friday in Meeker. The Cowboys are still hunting for their first win of the season, and this time they'll get to chase it down under their own Friday night lights. Good luck to the Meeker Cowboys as they look to defend their home turf — and give the Meeker crowd something to cheer about.

OBITUARIES

Sarah Tenae Kawcak Newtonson

April 17, 1987 ~ Aug. 19, 2025



Sarah Newtonson

Sarah Tenae Kawcak Newtonson was born in Craig, Colorado, on April 17, 1987, to Frank and Reneta Kawcak. Some of Sarah's earliest memories were picking peas in the garden, riding horses through the field, and tending cows and sheep at the Levkulich place. It was there that Sarah's dreams began to take shape. She learned to ride her first horse and fall in love with a loyal dog. She was tenacious and strong, even in her youth. She always sought a worthy challenge, a meaningful project and aimed high in every endeavor.

When Sarah was old enough to join 4-H, she knew one project would not be enough. Determined and driven, she raised her animals with persistent independence. Sarah also participated in leathercraft and studied

plants in her home state. She used both of these skill sets for many years. Sarah never shied away from a challenge, often seeking solutions to problems for herself, family, and friends.

At 12, Sarah was given her mare Boone and a colt named Sunny. From that point on, she was forever changed. Her love for horses flourished. She hitched rides to the ranch early each morning to work with them. Horses became her calling, her passion, her love. She cultivated her talent tirelessly, day in and day out.

Sarah's interests in ranching and horsemanship grew under her parents' guidance. When Frank and Reneta began to build west of Craig, Sarah was Grandpa Dan's right hand. They were a team, always learning, building, and sometimes finagling. She spoke affectionately of him always, and he adored her just as much.

As Sarah entered high school, her dreams and ambitions leveled up. Frank and Reneta did all they could to keep pace. Her drive to join, lead, and take part in many interests inspired those around her. Once she set her mind on a goal, she achieved it with focus and determination. With this mindset, she served as an active leader in 4-H and FFA, including

Elkhead Wranglers Club President, 4-H Junior Leader and Fair Royalty.

Sarah played a crucial role in building the family ranch. She also worked as a waitress, cared for animals, went to school, and was active in FFA. She was a member of the FFA meat judging team that competed nationally. Sarah sought every opportunity to serve others, often spearheading ideas into action. She was fierce and headstrong, but intentional and effective. These were the years Sarah was happiest.

Sarah enrolled at Oklahoma State University in the Fall of 2005 with a focus on animal science. She joined the Oklahoma State FIT program, immersed herself in college life, and joined multiple clubs. In 2007, she became a member of the OSU horse judging team. From 2008-2010, she served as assistant coach. After graduating with her Bachelor's of Science, she directed her education toward equine nutrition. During graduate studies, she was a Teaching Assistant to Dr. Cooper for Equine Science and Training classes, and was highly involved in the OSU Equine Center. She bred and foaled her dear Spike, who will carry her boots today for her final ride.

While home from college in the summers, Sarah fondly worked at the

Marvine Ranch as a hand. With this rare opportunity, she embraced all her passions at once. Riding her horses and dogs through God's beautiful country daily fed her soul. From those defining moments, Sarah knew she would forever work on a ranch, with her dogs and horses beside her.

Ranching was what Sarah loved most. She worked on various ranches throughout Colorado and Wyoming. Sarah made friends everywhere she went and always tried to help people. Her quick wit, sarcastic flare, and loving personality could put a smile on anyone's face. If you didn't grin, she teased until you laughed. Ranching was hard work, but Sarah made sure there was fun along the way. Springtime brought new life that touched Sarah's heart. She loved seeing the baby calves and spotting elk before anyone else. "Look!! Wapiti!!!"

Sarah worked hard at everything she did, sometimes until told to go home. She loved learning about plants and their uses to help people and animals. Her passion for horses flourished all her life. In 2021, Sarah started taking classes in Equine Body Work to help horses on a deeper level.

Whether through leatherwork, sewing, bead-

ing, or even baking, Sarah always had a project in mind and a person to gift it to. She held a rare standard for every handmade gift, planning each with deep thoughtfulness.

Sarah and Cody met at a branding in Horse Creek, Wyoming, on June 11, 2021, while she was working for the Grizzly Ranch in Walden, Colorado. One year later, they were married on June 11, 2022. Afterward, they started work on a ranch in Montrose, Colorado. Sarah loved the mountains and deserts equally, and this ranch had both. For their honeymoon, Sarah and Cody took a pack trip into the San Juan Mountain wilderness, where Sarah felt at home climbing rocks and riding Daisy Donkey. Together, they managed a BLM winter grazing permit near Cisco, Utah, during the winter of 2022/2023. Sarah found solace riding in the desert country, where she felt closest to God.

Cody was the true love of Sarah's life. They were inseparable—moving cattle, exploring country, chasing lizards, or traveling with their trailer load of dogs. It was rare that Cody had a phone call without Sarah on the line too. They were a support for each other through life's heaviest hits.

Sarah always did her

best to help family. After Frank's accident in July 2024, she committed to doing all she could. Sarah and Cody moved to Craig in December 2024 to help her parents heal and move forward.

Sarah will forever be known as "Aunt Dodo," the beloved nickname given by her nieces and nephews. They were spoiled by her affection and impeccable ability to teach. Her gift for instructing horse riding came effortlessly, no matter the age or level of her pupils. Her favorite students were the ones who called her "Aunt Sarah" or "Aunt Dodo."

Sarah was an 'old soul.' She enjoyed waking up to cribbage over hot tea, snowy evenings with puzzles, or rummy games with Cody.

Sarah always loved with her whole heart. She was fearless in everything, and she fearlessly loved. She loved her animals, her family, her friends, and God's beautiful country.

A celebration of Sarah's life was held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025, at the Anson's ranch in Craig. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made in Sarah's memory to the Moffat County 4-H Foundation in care of Grant Mortuary, 621 Yampa Avenue, Craig, Colorado 81625.

Dean Arthur 'Cowboy' Ross

March 16, 1954 ~ Sept. 4, 2025



Dean Ross

Dean Ross passed away in the company of family at the hospice care center in Grand Junction on Thursday morning Sept. 4, 2025. "Cowboy" fought a valiant battle with cirrhosis and passed away at the age of 71.

Dean was born in

Craig, Colorado, to Nora Ellen Stone and Ervin Gene Ross. He grew up mostly in and around Meeker and Cedaredge, Colorado. Dean joined the Army right out of school, and after returning home he made his way to Oklahoma. There he worked in the oilfield as a driller and tool pusher.

Dean made his way back to Colorado where he began working ranch jobs and breaking horses in and around Cedaredge and other various places in Colorado. Dean eventually went back to working in the oilfield. He traveled around chasing the rigs to places as far as Saudi Arabia.

Dean loved God, his mama, horses, the ladies,

his Harley, family and friends. He will be deeply missed by all those he has left behind

Dean is survived by his mother Nora Eversole; brothers Jack Ross, Michael Ross and Jay Ross; sisters Tonya Ridings and Nora Ross. He will be greeted by his father Ervin Ross and two brothers, Lawrence Ross and Darrell Ross, who went before him.

There will be a celebration of life for Dean, to be held at Rivers Church located at 762 Dodge St., Delta, Colorado, on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025, at 11 a.m.

Please join us as we gather to say farewell to our beloved brother and friend, "Cowboy."

Where to find a copy of the Herald Times in Meeker?

- Watt's Ranch Market
- White River Convenience
- Gofer Foods
- Corner Market
- Flat Tops Fuel
- Valley Hardware
- Samuelson's True Value

Thanks to these local businesses for selling the HT inside their stores!

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

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CROSSWORD

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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.

PUZZLES

THEME: COMBO WORDS

ACROSS

- Wood file
- Pick up a perpetrator
- This and that
- Title for Turkish leader
- Tarantino's "___ Bill: Vol.1"
- Ten million, in India
- Type of word
- Kent State state
- Oohed partner
- *Sleeping in a very fancy tent
- Board game of diplomacy
- Canada's favorite tree?
- Long time
- Asian wild sheep
- Galilei's first name
- Ever, to a poet
- Lease giver
- Hokkaido native
- Sends unwanted emails
- Charlotte's creation
- "Bravo! Bravo!"
- Roughly (2 words)
- Common spa treatment
- Gobbled up
- *Movie theater snack
- Infer using data
- Entrepreneur Mary Ash's middle name
- Wiser
- Decomposes
- *Communication device
- Veranda, in Honolulu
- Rum-soaked cake
- Shades of color
- Those against
- Tehran location
- Small island
- Violin's Renaissance predecessor
- Cloud's domain
- Left after deductions, in U.K.

DOWN

- Escaped
- Bug-eyed
- Synagogue
- Wide-brimmed straw hat
- Nothing, in Latin
- Skirt shape
- *Online journal
- *Exceptionally intelligent one
- Aahs' partners
- Hiker's journey
- He had
- Small hill rising up from veld
- Classic TV's "lovely lady"
- Pall ___ and ___ of America
- ENT's first concern?
- "The Fox and the Grapes" storyteller
- Copy, slangily
- Get the picture
- Desert in China and Mongolia
- Jasmine's kin
- Related on mother's side
- Revealed
- Zeus in disguise
- Not min or hr
- *Nonalcoholic drink
- LDS missionary
- Cook in a skillet
- Sea in the Mediterranean
- Desert mirage
- Prickly marine invertebrate
- *Scornful remark
- Keep someone ____, or away from causing harm
- Indian princess
- On top of
- Wading bird
- Yorkshire river
- Patty follower
- Abbreviation on a bathroom door
- Part of tennis match

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DAYS GONE BY

MEEKER HERALD ~ 125 YEARS AGO

The Simpson bakery is one of the latest additions to our town's business enterprises. Mr. Simpson has just received and set up in his place one of the best John Van ovens — capacity 100 loaves at each baking. No need of anybody going without bread in Meeker now as the Simpson bakery can supply the town and all comers.

Under the inspiration of good weather building operations are making good progress. The brick work of the Dikeman residence is finished and carpenters now have it well in hand. Fletcher Hay's neat little residence is nearing completion. The foundation walls of Henry Hay's cottage are well underway.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 100 YEARS AGO

The Exposition celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence will positively be completed and opened June 1, 1926, and continue until Dec. 1, 1926.

The public's version: We care not who makes the country's laws, so long as we don't have to obey them.

After nearly a month of tropical rains we are now enjoying that famous brand of Colorado weather that the poets sing about.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 75 YEARS AGO

A deal was closed last week whereby Don Hossack has purchased the M&M

Grocery and Market from Mr. Arthur Howey. Only a week or two previous Mr. Housey had purchased the interest of his partner Arnold Jones who moved to Arizona.

The news reached Meeker this week that Miss Lorraine Kincher and Ernie Findlay of the U.S. Army were married Sept. 1.

Says Secretary of Agriculture: Despite Victory Used Fat Saving Must Go On! Every woman in America should know that our country continues to face a serious fat shortage. And victory over Japan won't solve the problem immediately. We must keep on saving used fats in our kitchens!

MEEKER HERALD ~ 50 YEARS AGO

Meeker's oldest frame

house met its Waterloo Monday of this week. Making way for construction of a First Federal Savings and Loan branch office building, Joslin's Construction Co., Inc., had the building leveled in just over an hour. Constructed in 1886 by James L. McHatton, who was in partnership with F.E. Sheridan in a lumber mill, the house stayed in the family until shortly after James W. Sheridan was born in 1894. At that time it was sold to the Ambrose Oldland family. The Oldlands sold the house to the Jim Ruckman family in 1961.

The Friday afternoon fire whistle last week at 2:45 was a "test" alarm to see if the new whistle on the cemetery hill was in working order. The cemetery fire siren

was shot and mortally wounded last hunting season when some crazy hunter thought he heard a bull elk bugling and brought the mighty animal down with a couple of well-placed shots.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 25 YEARS AGO

Sunday was a good day for 19-year-old Derek Fisher of Meridian, Idaho and his dog Heidi. They won what some call the Super Bowl of Sheepdog Trials, the Meeker Classic.

The Aero Club of Colorado Northwester Community College approached the Rangely Board of Trustees for a donation of \$1,600 to help defray expenses for a flight competition they wish to attend in Billings, Montana.

RANGELY TIMES ~ 50 YEARS AGO

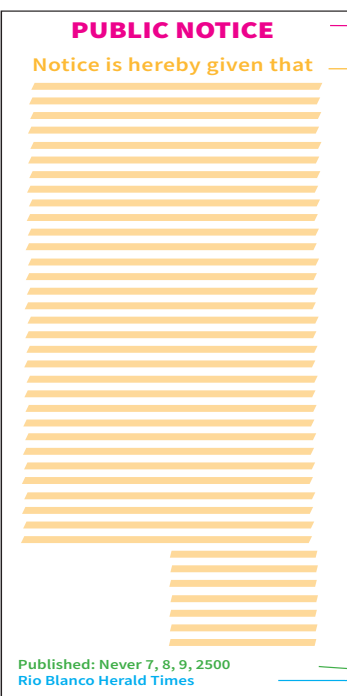
Congratulations to the RHS players and coaches for the fine victory over Craig last Friday. It was the first conference football win in some time for the team and we know a good season will follow.

State Patrol Officer Mike Kay and Moffat County Deputy Sheriff Bud Newman were investigating the theft of an automobile early Tuesday morning by a hitchhiker.

Members of the Oil Shale Environmental Panel were told at their meeting in Rangely that the first step had been taken toward construction of a dam on the White River in Utah.

PUBLIC NOTICES

HOW TO READ A LEGAL NOTICE



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

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

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

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

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

FUN FACT:
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(For reference, a first class stamp in 1993 cost just 29 cents!)

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NOTICE OF PUBLICATION BY CONSOLIDATED NOTICE

CASE: 24DR14
Petitioner: Macy Rae Ridgeway
Respondent: Dakota Wayne Perla
The foregoing proceedings have been filed and are served by this publication. If your name appears above, you may obtain a copy of the petition and summons from Rio Blanco Combined Courts at 455 Main St., Meeker, CO 81641. If you fail to respond within thirty-five (35) days, a default judgment may be entered against you. Published: August 28, September 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF REGULAR ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Meeker Re-1 School District, Rio Blanco County, Colorado that on the close of business on the sixty-sixth day before the election there were not more candidates for director than offices to be filled, including candidates filing affidavits of intent to be write-in candidates; therefore, the election to be held on November 7, 2025 is hereby canceled per CRS 1-5-208(1.5). The following candidates are declared elected:
Johanna Borchard - 4-year term
Bill de Vergie - 4-year term
Ann Franklin - 4-year term
Anthony R. Theos - 4-year term
Jessica Browning, Designated Election Official
Meeker Re-1 School District
P.O. Box 1089
555 Garfield Street
Meeker, CO 81641
970-878-9040
Published: September 11, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PAYROLL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TOWN OF MEEKER

8/31/2025
GENERAL FUND
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$67,642.67
CRA, Employee Retirement-Police Dept, \$3,982.32
CRA, Employee Retirement, \$8,611.00
CRA, Employee Loan Payments, \$650.93
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Insurance, \$25,778.58
Employee Withholding (WHT), Fed. WHT, \$8,445.38
Employee WHT, State WHT, \$3,852.75
Employee WHT, Medicare WHT, \$2,604.26
Employee WHT, Social Security WHT, \$6,065.44
Standard Insurance Company, Life/AD&D Ins., \$1,022.20
Washington National Ins Co, Cancer Ins., \$53.49
Town of Meeker - Petty Cash, Fuel / PD; CP Wkshp Supp / BOT, \$33.21
1st Respond, First Aid Supp - Twn Hall, \$40.72
All Copy, Aug Copier Lease & Usage, \$519.35
Atmos, Aug Natural Gas, \$281.02
Bolton Construction, Circle Park Phase 3 - Final Pymnt (Irrg/Fencing), \$28,000.00
Commercial Tire Service, Tires - Unit 223 / PD, \$826.00
LN Curtis & Sons, Rechargeable Nghtstsk, Gas Masks, \$2,404.19

Professional Elevator Inspections, Annual Insp, \$399.00
RBC Fleet Management, Aug Fuel, \$2,139.08
White River Distributing, Bottled Water, \$31.00
Column*, Aug Legal Publications, \$75.62
Herald Times*, Aug Legal Publications, \$38.07
Meeker Parts City*, Wiring - AC Trk, Batteries - Units 223 & 224/PD; Wtr Trk Gasket Sets, Trans Fluid, BlueDEF, Air Frsh, Wire Caps/PW, \$834.26
Olszewski & Massih PC*, Aug Legal Fees, \$2,322.00
Overton Recycling*, Aug Trash Svc, \$242.00
RMR*, Aug HRA Claims, \$2,153.70
Valley Hardware*, Clng Supp - Shlrr, Keypad Drlock / PD; Lghtrblbs / BLDG; Trshbgs / PW, \$218.94
WREA*, Aug Electric, \$2,979.62
Your Parts Haus*, Wiring, Lights, Fuses - AC Trk, Oil & Air Fltrs / PD; Sprinkler, Screws, Belts / PRK; Oil, Air & Oil Fltrs, Gasket Kit, Univ Cement, Tire Clnr, Oil Dry / PW, \$255.01
AGNC, Brd Aprvd Donation - Settler Partner Sponsorship, \$750.00
Bear Creek Anml Hosp, Neuter & Shots - Shlrr Dogs; Evac Boarding, \$776.00
Century Link, July Phone Svc, \$271.76
CMRS, Reimburse July Pstg, \$66.63
ColoCPA, 2024 Audit Svc, \$5,017.00
Diamond Flooring, Epoxy Flooring - Deposit, \$862.50
Edwards, Jay, Aug Muni Judge Svc, \$200.00
Ferguson, Circle Park Phase 3 - Irrg Supp, \$1,215.48
First Advantage, Drug Screen - Kilduff, \$55.35
Meeker Chamber, Brd Aprvd Donation - Skate on the Square, \$2,500.00
Meeker Collision, Bumper Install, \$468.00
Networking of the Rockies, Aug IT Support; Mimecast Trng; Google Email Svc, \$5,700.00
RBC ICT, Aug Internet Svc, \$164.00
RBGA, Brd Aprvd Donation - Love of the Course, \$3,000.00
RMR, Aug Admin Fee, \$70.60
TransUnion, July TLO Membership, \$75.00
VRC, Aug Document Destruction, \$106.76
Boyko*, Glass Clnr, \$69.48
Herald Times*, Legal Publications, \$324.00
Mexican House*, BOT Wkshp Meal, \$326.40
RBC Sales & Use Tax*, Aug Sales Tax Adj, \$10,522.22
Total General Fund, \$205,042.99
WATER FUND
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$13,243.43
CRA, Employee Retirement, \$1,924.18
CRA, Employee Loans, \$421.34
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Insurance, \$6,337.17
Employee WHT, Social Security WHT, \$2,218.68
Employee WHT, Medicare WHT, \$535.46
Employee WHT, Federal WHT, \$762.31
Employee WHT, State WHT, \$116.90
Standard Insurance Company, Life/AD&D Ins., \$279.34
Washington National Ins Co, Cancer Ins., \$79.86
US Postmaster, Water Billing Postage, \$321.47
1st Respond, First Aid Supp - Twn Hall,

\$13.58
All Copy, Aug Copier Lease & Usage, \$111.55
Atmos, Aug Natural Gas, \$40.28
Bradfield, Gracelyn, Reimb Closed Wtr Acnt Credit, \$227.15
Chilcott, Glenn, Reimb Closed Wtr Acnt Credit, \$24.00
Ferguson, PIT & Wall MIU's (74), \$12,089.44
Neumeier, Justin, Reimb Closed Wtr Acnt Credit, \$11.05
RBC Fleet Management, Aug Fuel, \$369.39
West Elk Supply, Chlorine, \$1,744.00
Column*, Aug Legal Publications, \$34.25
CRC*, GSWL - App 5 - Final Payment, \$150,116.20
Herald Times*, Aug Legal Publications, \$38.07
Meeker Parts City*, Air Frsh, BlueDEF, Wtr Trk Grinder Disk & Trans Fluid, \$151.03
Olszewski & Massih PC*, Aug Legal Fees, \$1,518.00
RMR*, Aug HRA Claims, \$643.33
UNCC*, Aug Line Locates, \$65.19
Valley Hardware*, Wshrs, Couplings, Faucet, Fr Hydrnt Valves & Adptrs, \$212.60
WREA*, Aug Electric, \$5,473.39
Your Parts Haus*, Oil, Air & Oil Fltrs, Gasket Kit, Univ Cement, Tire Clnr, Oil Dry, \$83.62
Century Link, July Phone Svc, \$20.50
CMRS, Reimburse July Pstg, \$202.98
ColoCPA, 2024 Audit Svc, \$3,633.00
Mountain Cross Engineering, North 40 - Easement; Garfield St Wtr Line - Asphalt Rev, \$647.50
RBC ICT, Aug Internet Svc, \$36.00
RMR, Aug Admin Fee, \$14.40
VRC, Aug Document Destruction, \$21.35
CH Diagnostic & Consulting*, GWUDI Sample Testing, \$1,485.00
Herald Times*, Legal Publications, \$84.00
UPS*, Wtr Sample Shipping, \$140.85
Total Water Fund, \$205,491.84
Total All Funds, \$410,534.83
Published: September 11, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
The Meeker Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to consider a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Short-Term Rental for Daniel and Sabrina Ferguson, Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and sly 6' of 7, Block 113, Town of Meeker also known as 925 7th Street. The meeting will be held at Town Hall, 345 Market Street, downstairs in the Board Room. If you have comments for or against the application, you are invited to attend the hearing or submit written comments, prior to the meeting, to Town Hall, 345 Market Street, Meeker, CO 81641. Further information is available by contacting Carly Thomson at Town Hall or by telephone, 970-878-5344, Monday through Friday.
Published: September 11, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

EXHIBIT IX-A
The 81631 Public Notice and Notice of Public Hearing for Post-Award Hearing EAGLE COUNTY will conduct a public hearing at 500 Broadway, Eagle, CO 2025 on September 23 at the Board of County Commissioners Meeting. The purpose of the hearing is to allow citizens to review and comment on the performance of the

County in carrying out their Community Development Block Grant #20-630, which was financed with federal Community Development Block Grant funds provided by the State of Colorado. Written comments are also welcome and must be received by September 15, 2025, at PO Box 2308, Silverthorne, CO 80498; Attention: Anita Cameron/ Northwest Loan Fund. Information and records regarding the above described project are available at 249 Warren Ave., Silverthorne, CO 80498 during regular office hours. A public hearing to receive citizen views concerning the community's economic and community development needs will be held at Eagle County, 500 Broadway, Eagle, CO 81613 on September 23, 2025 at 10:00 am. For information concerning the public hearing contact Anita Cameron, PO Box 2308, 249 Warren Ave., Silverthorne, CO 80498. Phone 970-406-0025. The public hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any handicapped person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Julia Aosan at Julia.asoian@eaglecounty.us or 970-328-3516, at least seven calendar days prior to the meeting and an interpreter will be provided. Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Julia.asoian@eaglecounty.us or 970-328-3516 at least seven calendar days prior to the meeting and a language interpreter will be provided. To access a Telecommunication Device for Deaf Persons (TDD) please call Julia Aosoian at 970-328-3516. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during these hearings should notify Julia Aosoian at 500 Broadway, Eagle, CO 81631 at least three days prior to the hearing to be attended.
IX-A-1
(Revised 04/25)
Published: September 11, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

TOWN OF MEEKER BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
7:00 P.M. - Town Hall
345 Market Street, Meeker, CO
Call-in number: 970-878-8091
I. Call to Order
a. Pledge of Allegiance
b. Roll Call
II. Approval of the Agenda
III. Approval of the Previous Minutes
IV. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
V. Public Participation
VI. Staff Updates
a. Public Works
b. Police
c. Community Development/Planning
d. Town Clerk
e. Town Attorney
VII. New Business
VIII. Manager's Report
IX. Mayor's Remarks
X. Other Board Business
XI. Adjournment
Published: September 11, 2025
Rio Blanco Herald Times

COMBINED NOTICE - MAILING

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 25-08
To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
On June 12, 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)
Dolores J. Weiss and Anthony L. Weiss
Original Beneficiary(ies)
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Beneficiary, as nominee for Goldwater Bank N.A., its successors and assigns
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
Carrington Mortgage Services LLC
Date of Deed of Trust
July 22, 2016
County of Recording
Rio Blanco
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
August 03, 2016
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
312956
Original Principal Amount
\$637,500.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$295,619.80
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
Lot 2 Weiss Minor Subdivision according to the Plat thereof filed June 25, 2012 as Reception No. 304108 Rio Blanco County, Colorado
Purported common address: 15000 County Road 115, Meeker, CO 81641.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.
NOTICE OF SALE
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, 10/15/2025, 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 8/28/2025
Last Publication 9/25/2025
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: 08/15/2025
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:
Amanda Ferguson #44893
Heather Deere #28597
Toni M. Owan #30580
Halliday Watkins & Mann, P.C. 355 Union Blvd., Suite 250, Lakewood, CO 80228 (303) 274-0155
Attorney File # CO24894
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
Published Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25
Rio Blanco Herald Times

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

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

Classifieds start at just \$5/week!

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

HELP WANTED

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1
Employment Opportunities
Meeker High School
• MHS Special Education
Paraprofessional - Full Time
Position will remain open until filled.
Meeker Elementary School
• Special Education
Paraprofessional - Part Time
Position closes Sept 18, 2025 at 4:00pm
Visit our website for vacancy details & application process:
meeker.k12.co.us
ADA/EOE. Subject to change at any time!
Meeker School District Administration
555 Garfield St., Meeker, CO
970-878-9040

HELP WANTED

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

RIO BLANCO COUNTY
Employment Opportunities
• Budget and Finance Director - \$94,919-\$127,000/yr, B
B-benefited: Medical, dental, vision and life insurance, paid time off, retirement
Please visit www.rbc.us or Rio Blanco County Human Resources at 555 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Meeker, CO. 970-878-9570 ADA/EOE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

For immediate fire and demolition clean up, road building, and all other dirt work, contact Wes Moody Construction, 970-987-1250

ELDER CARE

Your Local Home Care Agency Since 2017
WESTERN SLOPE IN-HOME CARE
Quality care for the elderly, blind, and disabled, two hours a week to 24 hours a day. Contact us for a free consultation for services or employment opportunities.
970-878-7008
<https://www.westernslopehomecare.com>

AUCTIONS

RT CLAYPOOLE AUCTION SERVICE
Live Fall Consignment Auction
Join us Saturday September 27th at 10:00 AM at our New Auction Yard! 1430 N. Yampa Ave. in Craig, CO. We will be accepting consignments starting Monday August 25th through Friday September 26th. We will accept vehicles, equipment, tools, farm/ranch supplies, hunting/outdoor gear, antiques, and quality/clean household items. Give Tanner a call to schedule delivery of your consignments: 970-756-9353. Keep checking our website for incoming items. rtclaypooleauction.com Email: rtclaypooleauction@hotmail.com

PUBLIC SERVICE

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

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

RENTALS: MEEKER

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

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PUBLIC SERVICE

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

"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

STORAGE

If storage units #33 and #34 are not paid by Sept. 30, contents will be sold. DKG Storage, Rangely.

Position Announcement

Accountant / Analyst - Mid-Level
White River Electric Association, Inc. is currently seeking quality applicants for Accountant/Analyst- Mid-Level position at the headquarters of the Association. The applicant must be 18 years of age. A bachelor's degree in business administration or related field is preferred and applicants must possess a minimum of three years' experience in accounting, finance or related field. Must be able to work a 40-hour week. Applicant must be able to pass a physical, drug, alcohol and background test if/when requested. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: assisting with the overall financial management of the association and subsidiary, including financial forecasting and reporting; cash management, debt management, general ledger reconciliation and analysis; assisting financial and administrative staff with activities related to asset management, budgeting, plant accounting, payroll, purchase orders, bank reconciliation and accounts payable; supports with audit requests, employee benefit administration, and regulatory reporting. Position is considered full-time and will be eligible for benefits after 90 days. Pay range of \$35.00-\$45.00 per hour, depending on experience, plus any overtime. Successful applicants may be eligible for performance and year-end bonuses. Benefits include health, dental, vision and life insurances, paid vacation, sick leave and retirement benefits. Applications can be obtained from the office of White River Electric Association, Inc., 233 6th St, Meeker, CO 81641 from 7am-5pm- Monday-Thursday or found online at wrea.org/employment-opportunities. Applications must be accompanied by a resume and will be accepted until 5:00 pm on Thursday, September 18, 2025. White River Electric Association, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED

WESTERN SLOPE IN-HOME CARE
Western Slope Home Care is currently hiring! We are dedicated to building a reliable community resource right here in our hometown, and we are looking for compassionate individuals to join our team. We are seeking applicants aged 16 and older who are interested in assisting those in need. We offer flexible hours and can find a role that fits your availability and limitations, allowing you to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. We have a variety of positions available, including:
• 24/7 Live-in Services: \$285-\$325/day
• Overnight Care: \$75-\$125/night (depends on 4-6 hours of work between 8pm and 8am)
• Homemaker Services: \$15.75-\$17/hour
• Personal Care Services: \$15.75-\$17/hour
• Skill Level Services: \$17-\$19/hour
Applying is easy!
You can find more information and submit your application on our website: <https://www.westernslopehomecare.com>
To start your interview process today, please call us at 970-878-7008. We look forward to hearing from you!

HELP WANTED

RIO BLANCO COUNTY
Employment Opportunities
• Budget and Finance Director - \$94,919-\$127,000/yr, B
B-benefited: Medical, dental, vision and life insurance, paid time off, retirement
Please visit www.rbc.us or Rio Blanco County Human Resources at 555 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Meeker, CO. 970-878-9570 ADA/EOE

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Live Fall Consignment Auction
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PUBLIC SERVICE

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

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL
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

DISH Satellite
Get DISH Satellite TV + In ternet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade. 80,000 On-Demand Mo Vies, Plus Limited Time Up to \$600 in Gift Cards
Call Today! 1-855-720-8701

INNOGEN PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS
Call us toll-free at 1-844-823-0293

PUBLIC SERVICE

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

INOGEN PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS
Call us toll-free at 1-844-823-0293

REAL ESTATE CORNER

REAL ESTATE CORNER


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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! Bonus offer!
75% OFF + \$250
Installation 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 license and registration numbers. AR 366920925, AZ ROC 346027, CA 0083795, CT HIC 061520, DC 4202239-11, FL CEC056678, HI C127230, ID REC-51604, LA 559544, MA 21302, MD MHRC 111225, MI 262300331, 262300330, 262300329, 262300328, 262300318, 262300173, MN HR10524, MT 2661922, ND 4730A, NE 50145-24, 50145-23, NJ 13A41328500, NM 408693, NV 86990, OR 216294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, VT 1740000871, WA LEAF17-76296, WI No. 537, ZCTFRB WI W0956

Celebrating 24 Years - Same office, Same Location!
BROOKS REALTY
889 Main St., Meeker, Colorado Laurie J. Brooks Owner/Broker
brooksgrealtymeekeer.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

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT
BUY 1, GET 1 40% OFF PLUS \$200 OFF Your Entire Purchase*
MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4
OFFER ENDS 12/31
TOLL FREE 888-670-2459

Alpine West Properties LLC
Your Trusted Source for Anything and Everything Real Estate!
For Photos & Videos Scan Here
TBD CR 15 - 39013± acre ranch w/ 3BD | 1BA | 1412 SF log home, 2 domestic wells, fenced pens/pastures, outbuildings and two ponds.....\$1,200,000
1509 CR 4 - 4BD | 3.25BA | 3810 SF 2-story home on 3 AC w/ domestic well, 30'x49' shop, 16'x31' loading shed, w/ views from the mesa overlooking Meeker.....\$265,000
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 - 4Bry river views from this single-level 3BD | 2.75BA | 2518 SF log home w/ domestic well & cistern, on 27.06 acres, bordering the BLM. Reduced!.....\$555,000
4019 CR 4 -.....SOLD
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 -.....Under Contract
302 W. Main St, Rangely - Commercially zoned, 3080 SF building w/ paved parking lot, highway frontage, great visibility. Plus separate 2BD | 1BA | 880 SF house. Reduced!.....\$265,000
9501 County Road 10, Maybell (Greystone) - 3BD | 2BA | 1782 SF home offered with your choice of land options (120, 80, 40, or 8.469 ± acres) & water tap.....\$275,000 - \$412,500
807 E. Main St, Rangely - Commercial lot & 3/68 SF shop+office space. Auto Mechanic Trade Fixtures can be purchased for \$86,000. Real estate only.....\$224,000
NEW! 1109 Park Ave - 2BD | 1BA | 1150 SF Single level home, corner lot, fenced yard, & shop/shed.....\$210,000
1058 Sage Ct -.....Under Contract
NEW! 1129 Gail Cir - 0.24 acre lot w/ excavation started, water & sewer tap fees paid, soils engineering report available. Ready to build!.....\$67,500
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
1509 County Road 4
643 Main Street, Meeker

ADVERTISE WITH US!
It's good for your business, and ours!
Email ads@ht1885.com

PRICE REDUCED

1217 MAIN STREET, MEEKER
\$375,000

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 \$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..... PENDING \$599,000
MEEKER: 6255 County Road 7: 14.87 acres, pond, well water, shop, presently remodeled home..... PENDING \$585,000
RIFLE: 1018 East Avenue: Creekside 1,920 sqft, 3BD/3.5BA townhome with garage..... PENDING \$443,118
MEEKER: 3915 County Road 10: 3.1 acres, well water, gorgeous views of the South Fork Valley..... \$393,000
MEEKER: 1217 Main Street: Freshly updated 3BD/0.75BA, private double corner lot, abundant storage..... \$375,000
MEEKER: 565 4th Street: Tri-level 3BD/3BA, fenced yard, spacious garage, peaceful location..... PENDING \$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: 837 Cedar Street: Large 4BD/1.75BA home on a spacious 15,000 SQFT corner lot \$115,000
MEEKER: 851 5th Street: 7,500 SQFT vacant lot, with water tap and spectacular view..... SOLD

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

STREAMLINE REALTY LLC