

Meeker April 23

4H Building

6:00 pm

GET



FIRE READY

Rangely May 14

Hospital

6:00 pm

Herald Times



Independent Community Journalism Since 1885

Vol. 141, No. 36 • Apr 16, 2026 • \$1⁰⁰ • ht1885.com

Meeker Sportsman's Club re-opens pistol range with improvements

Special to the HT

MEEKER | The Meeker Sportsman's Club is pleased to announce the re-opening of their pistol range following the completion of facility improvements. Last year, the club applied for and was awarded a Shooting Range Development Grant from Colorado Parks and Wildlife to help fund the \$72,000 project. Construction began in earnest this February to take advantage of the mild winter weather.

Prior to improvements, the club's pistol range was simply a large open area with earthen berms to allow for safe shooting. Following the improvements, the pistol range now includes the addition of multiple concrete pads, a large covered firing line, a permanent target stand with ranged shooting distances, and other general upgrades to the parking access and waste facilities. These improvements will not only enhance the experience of club members and public visitors alike, but they were also specifically designed with several groups from the community in mind.

This includes our youth 4-H shooters practicing for county and state competitions, local law enforcement agencies (CPW, RBCSO, and MPD) who train and qualify at the club, and those participating in education opportunities such as Hunter Ed and CCW classes.

Concrete and construction work was completed by local contractor, Douglas Johnson, and the club received generous in-kind contributions in the form of equipment labor and road base from local CPW staff, Rio Blanco County, and the Town of Meeker. Additionally, club members volunteered more than 150 hours of their time over the three months of the project.

As of April 11, the pistol range is fully re-open for regular use. For more information about upcoming club events that are open to the public, range closures, or how to get your club membership, follow the Meeker Sportsman's Club on Facebook and visit them at meekercoloradosportsmansclub.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Thanks to a grant from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Meeker Sportsman's Club has upgraded its pistol range. According to organizers, the improvements were specifically designed with several community groups in mind: youth 4-H shooting sports, local law enforcement agencies for training, and hunter education and concealed carry classes. For information on joining the Sportman's Club, visit www.meekercoloradosportsmansclub.com

Black Diamond Mine fire now 'top priority' in Colorado

By LUCAS TURNER

Special to the HT

MEEKER | The glowing cross atop China Wall is a familiar landmark for Meeker residents, but according to fire safety mitigation experts, it isn't the only thing lighting up the region just west of town.

"I think today if you had to ask me what the biggest priority in the state would be, it would be the Black Diamond fire, because we have an unraveling situation out there," said Tara Tafi, Senior Project Manager and Reclamation Specialist for the Inactive Mine Reclamation Program under the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS).

Tafi presented an urgent update to the Meeker Board of Trustees on April 7 regarding the status of the Black Diamond Mine—an abandoned coal operation approximately one mile northwest of town that has been smoldering underground for nearly a century. An "Unraveling" Situation

While the fire has been active since at least 1930, recent monitoring data shows a rapid and dangerous escalation in activity. During a thermal drone survey in June 2023, the highest recorded vent temperatures were approximately 150 degrees Fahrenheit. By January 2026, those readings spiked to 850 degrees, and by the time of the April 7 meeting, Tafi reported that on-site measurements had climbed to over 1,000 degrees

Fahrenheit.

This rapid spike is the primary evidence for the "unraveling" nature of the fire. Meeker's nearly vertical coal seams—a hallmark of the Grand Hogback range—create a "chimney effect," allowing oxygen to pull deep into the ground to fuel the fire. As the fire consumes coal, it creates an underground void that leads to surface subsidence and fractures. These new openings allow even more oxygen to reach the fire, creating a self-sustaining feedback loop that causes the fire to burn hotter and collapse the ground further.

The visual evidence of this heat is now plain to see from the air. High-resolution imagery shows a significant die-off of timber and grass directly above the fire expressions. Tafi noted that looking at aerial photos from 2023 compared to today, the amount of "death in the timber" is striking, with trees turning red and dying as the intense heat and noxious gases vent through their root systems.

Risk and Air Quality

This escalation represents a critical risk because of the fire's proximity to the community—it is located just 0.6 miles from the nearest residence. Beyond the heat, the vents release dangerous concentrations of carbon monoxide, making air quality near the site hazardous. Tafi warned that her team must carry four gas meters when approaching the area, serving as a stark reminder for local trail users to stay away from the frac-

tures.

The presence of dead, dry fuel directly above 1,000-degree vents creates a high risk of a surface wildfire ignition, similar to the 2020 Streeter Fire sparked by a coal seam fire in Moffat County.

Emergency Mitigation Plan

To prevent such a disaster, the state is transitioning from monitoring to active emergency mitigation. The planned work, slated to begin around the beginning of May, is an essential preventative action rather than a temporary stopgap.

The state intends to clear approximately 1.5 acres of dead timber and brush above the fire to remove the immediate fuel source. The team also plans to "bench" back into the hillside, creating a flat area or fire break designed to catch any hot or burning material that might roll off the cliff face before it reaches the dry grasses in the bottom of Anderson Gulch.

Local Logistics and Future Steps

Residents can expect to see heavy equipment, including dozers and excavators, in the coming weeks. Because the previous access route is no longer safe, the board granted the state permission to use Anderson Gulch via Hill Street and Ute Park. Tafi noted that they can get a "low boy" trailer through the gate to unload equipment without unloading on Main Street. To prevent sign theft and trespassing, the state will install robust multi-lock gates and warning signs near the BLM

Cont. on Page 2

RHS Panther Prom Royalty



KELSEY PETERS PHOTOGRAPHY

Members of the Rangely High School prom royalty pose for a photo during prom this past weekend. Back row, from left: Logan Peterson, Aspen Steele, Jeren Blankenship (prom king), Kaelyn Geer (prom queen), Aubrey Kenney and Joseph Valdez. Front row: Ryker Fielder and Collins Lohry.

RBC Commissioners to discuss term limits; public hearings scheduled

Special to the HT

MEEKER | The Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners has been approached about the potential elimination of term limits for the Assessor, Clerk and Recorder, County Commissioner(s) and Treasurer.

There will be an initial discussion of this issue during the Board of Commissioner's regular meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2026.

As part of the decision process, the Board will hold public hearings to gather community input on the issue as fol-

lows:

- April 28, 2026 – Rangely
- May 5, 2026 – Meeker

If the Commissioners ultimately decide to refer the proposed ballot questions, they will appear on the Nov. 3, 2026, General Election ballot, allowing Rio Blanco County voters to decide whether to maintain or remove the current two-term limit for these elected positions.

Please review posted agendas at <https://rbc.us/129/Agendas> for scheduled public comment sessions and hearings.

Prime Rib Dinner AND Pie Auction Fundraiser



Proceeds benefit Local Masonic scholarships for RBC students

Sunday, April 19 ~ Doors open at 4 p.m. ~ \$35/plate

4-H Building, 700 Sulphur Creek Rd., Meeker ~ Contact Matthew Griffiths for RSVP/advance tickets, 970.456.5657



Fire risks, student voices and local growth lead board agenda

Student forum, emergency fuels reduction plan and local business report among key discussions

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

MEEKER | A student-led discussion on wildfire policy and an update on a nearby underground coal mine fire drew attention during the Meeker Board of Trustees' latest meeting, where officials also approved steps toward wildfire mitigation near town.

Members of the Meeker FFA chapter presented an "Agricultural Issues Forum" focused on wildfire prevention and its impact on Colorado agriculture. The exercise, part of a leadership development event, required students to research and present opposing viewpoints on a complex issue.

The group examined whether wildfire prevention practices should play a major role in protecting agricultural lands and long-term economic stability.

Students outlined competing perspectives, noting that nearly 20% of Colorado's forests are at high risk for severe wildfire, with impacts extending beyond forests to water systems, grazing land and rural economies.

Arguments in favor of prevention emphasized that treatments such as fuel reduction and prescribed burns can reduce wildfire severity by as much as 70% and help protect watersheds and infrastructure. Opposing arguments cau-

tioned against overmanagement, citing the ecological role of fire and the high cost of prevention efforts.

The discussion concluded that wildfire policy requires balancing prevention, ecological health and fiscal responsibility.

Trustees praised the students' ability to present multiple sides of the issue and encouraged them to continue refining their arguments ahead of state competition.

The board heard from state officials about increasing activity at the historic Black Diamond underground coal mine fire, located roughly a mile from town in Anderson Gulch.

The board discussed the importance of clear communication with the public, emphasizing that the work is preventative and aimed at reducing risk rather than responding to an active wildfire.

Trustees indicated support for moving forward with agreements that would allow access and coordination among agencies, contractors and landowners.

The board approved a \$35,000 bid for a housing development concept plan using Proposition 123 funding. Town staff said the work will focus on concept drawings, development pro formas and possible public-private partnership and grant opportunities for publicly owned

parcels. The work is expected to take about six months and does not require a local funding match.

In a quarterly update, Meeker Chamber Director Sara Stephenson said the chamber has added 11 new members this year, bringing total membership to 164 so far. She also reported on business classes planned for late April and early May, a new marketing campaign, a tourism coordinator hire and several Up-lift-related projects, including murals, a photo installation concept for Town Park and a quarterly coloring contest.

Stephenson also updated the board on the town banner project, which was briefly installed across Market Street before being taken down after concerns about wind, mounting stability and liability. Discussion centered on whether the current location functions as a wind tunnel and whether the banner should be relocated or redesigned before it is put

back up. Trustees indicated they wanted the issue reevaluated before reinstalling it.

During staff updates, town officials said a candidate has accepted Lisa Cook's position, with a start date of April 27. Staff also reported two candidates had been interviewed for the parks lead position and one seasonal applicant was scheduled to be interviewed, with more applications possibly still to come. Officials said more detail on the parks transition would be discussed at an upcoming workshop.

Other staff updates included replacement of about 40 solar light cells damaged in a power surge, with costs expected to be covered by insurance, and a brief discussion of drought conditions. Staff said Meeker remains in good shape on water supply and is not currently using its full allocation, but encouraged continued water-wise practices.

RIO HAPPENINGS: APRIL 5-11, 2026

ARRESTS

4/10/2026 - Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office arrested a 23 year-old female on a Violation of a Protection Order, Harassment and Domestic Violence. She was taken to jail.

CALL SUMMARIES

4/7/2026 @ 4:45 pm. A possible DUI driver was reported to Colorado State Patrol. Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office assisted in locating the vehicle and the driver politely participated in roadside sobriety tests. In the end, the driver passed with flying colors and was found to be sober. He was sent on his way and hopefully his driving behavior straightend up.

4/9/2026 @ 12:12 pm. A pole was reported to be on fire near the intersection of Highway 13 and County Road 8. It did not turn out to be a large fire and the fire dept. was able to clear the scene quickly.

4/9/2026 @ 4:35 pm. A juvenile riding a bicycle was struck by a vehicle. The driver left the scene and law enforcement was unable to locate the suspect vehicle. The juvenile was evaluated by ambulance personnel on-site and did not require transport to the hospital.

4/10/2026 @ 9:34 am. A deputy responded to a report of a protection order violation following a verbal disagreement between the involved parties the previous night. The female suspect had initially requested a welfare check on the male party; however, she was subsequently taken into custody for Violation of a Protection Order, Harassment and Domestic Violence. She was transported to jail.

4/11/2026 @ 1:01 pm. A deputy came across a sheep out of its pasture near mile marker 71 on Highway 64. After attempting to convince her to return home, it became clear this sheep had a full

itinerary and no interest in turning back. Later the owner was notified, but even they couldn't talk her out of her countryside adventure. At this point, she was basically on a self-guided tour of Meeker. She was last seen heading up County Road 8 and appears to be making her way to what we

can only assume is her summer vacation spot. **4/11/2026 @ 5:35 pm.** A single-vehicle accident occurred at mile marker 39 on Highway 64. The sole occupant of the vehicle was transported to the hospital. CSP is investigating the accident.

(Cont.) Emergency fire mitigation planned for Anderson Gulch area

Cont. from Page 1

boundary.

Tafi emphasized that while the situation is serious, it is being managed by experienced professionals who oversee roughly 40 such fires across the state.

"The key is to make sure that we get the information across, but we don't want to scare people," Tafi said. "We have

a plan, we're paying attention, and we're going to do the best we can to get it under control."

This May project is just the "emergency piece" of the plan. Tafi has already requested grant funds for a larger mitigation project in 2027 to potentially "dig on the fire" and achieve a more permanent solution once conditions are safer.

Residents with ques-

tions or concerns regarding the Black Diamond Mine fire mitigation work can contact Chris Arends, Natural Resources Public Information Officer for the state. For more background on the history of Rio Blanco County's underground fires, residents can visit the Herald Times archives to find previous reporting on local coal seam risks.

TOTAL CALLS: 255 — 911 CALLS: 22 — ADMIN: 277		
CALL TYPE	SHERIFF	MEEKER PD
911 HANGUP	6	1
ABANDONED VEHICLE	2	2
ANIMAL	7	8
ASSIST COLORADO STATE PATROL	3	0
ASSIST MEEKER COLUNTEER FIRE DEPT	3	4
ASSIST RANGELY PD	2	0
BUSINESS CHECK	2	7
CERTIFIED VIN	1	3
CITIZEN CONTACT	2	1
CIVIL	1	0
CODE ENFORCEMENT	0	1
DIRECTED PATROL	5	4
DISTURBANCE	0	1
FINGERPRINTS	1	0
FOLLOW UP	2	1
HARASSMENT	0	2
COURTESY RIDE	1	0
CRASH	0	1
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	1	0
DIRECTED PATROL	4	6
DISTURBANCE	0	1
FOLLOW-UP	2	2
INFORMATION	1	0
MOTORIST ASSIST	7	0
PHONE FOLLOW-UP	2	3
PROTECTION ORDER VIOLATION	0	1
PROPERTY	1	1
SMOKE REPORT	1	1
SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT	4	0
THEFT	2	1
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	2	1
TRAFFIC STOP	21	8
VIN INSPECTION	4	7
WELFARE CHECK	2	1
TOTALS	81	62
TOTAL INMATES IN JAIL AS OF 4/6/2026:		5

Cont. on Page 2

Where Healthcare meets Economic Development

Did you know that when Pioneers Medical Center creates 6 new full-time jobs, we also create 31 indirect jobs, and 2 induced jobs for a total of 39 new jobs?

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

Small business workshops

MEEKER | The Meeker Chamber of Commerce announced a series of upcoming small business workshops. April 23, 12–1:30 p.m.: "Ready, Set, Pitch: Communicating Your Business Clearly with Social Media" (Madi). Free. May 1, 8–9:30 a.m.: "AI Marketing: Made Simple" (Adam Chandler). Free, includes 7 a.m. breakfast. May 8, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.: "Bookkeeping Bootcamp" (Helen Roe). \$35 registration includes lunch. Contact the Meeker Chamber of Commerce 970-878-5510 for details.

Fire Ready meeting April 23

MEEKER | A "Fire Ready: A Community Conversation" wildfire preparedness event is set for April 23 from 6–8 p.m. at the 4-H Building in Meeker. Local agencies will share updates, resources and tips for wildfire season. Fire engines and guest speakers will be featured.

Crafternoons at the library for teens

MEEKER | Crafternoon on April 17 from 3-5 p.m. Come hang out with friends, craft and have snacks. This month we will be making embroidered bookmarks and previous crafts will also be available. On May 22, we'll do Mini Canvas painting and previous crafts will also be available.

Meeker Heritage Club April 21

MEEKER | Come join us for a presentation by the museum, local history, and good conversation from 10-11 a.m. every 3rd Tuesday of the month. For ages 15+ in the Meeker Library Community Room. Coffee provided.

Financial literacy classes in April

MEEKER | Join us at the Meeker Library and learn about banking, saving, budgeting, credit, loans, scams, fraud, and more at our April Financial Literacy Classes! April 21 3-4 p.m., and April 28 10-11 a.m. Call us to register! 970-878-5911

Father-Daughter Ball April 17

MEEKER | Fathers and daughters of all ages, create magical memories at ERBM's annual Father Daughter Ball. Friday, April 17, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfield Center. Cost: \$5/person. Register online at erbmec.com/ball or stop by Meeker Rec Center, 101 Ute Road. Questions: 970-878-3403.

Golden Gala April 18

MEEKER | Adults 62+, please join us at the Fairfield Center for the Golden Gala Saturday, April 18! Enjoy dancing, light refreshments, and a lighthearted crowning of the evening's King and Queen. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. Cost: \$8/person. Register online at erbmec.com/gala or stop by Meeker Rec Center, 101 Ute Road. Questions: 970-878-3403.

Historical Society lunch April 19

MEEKER | The Rio Blanco County Historical Society will gather Sunday, April 19 at 1 p.m. for lunch and a presentation by students from Barone Middle School with their History Day projects. All are welcome. At the Heritage Culture Center, 517 Park Ave., Meeker.

Muzzleloader Shoot April 25

MEEKER | The Meeker Sportsman's Club (MSC) is hosting the Annual Jim Harmon Memorial Muzzleloader Shoot. Join us at the MSC range on April 25. Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. \$10 to shoot 20 targets. Prizes for men, women and youth categories. Optional to bring an item for the trade blanket. Food and drinks will be available. For more details visit <https://meekercoloradosportsmansclub.com/muzzleloader-fun-shoot>

Meeker Trail Days April 25

MEEKER | Help spruce up local trails at Meeker Trail Days on Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. Meet at the Ute Park Trailhead on Hill Street. Volunteers should bring water, sunscreen, eye protection and gloves. Tools and assignments provided. Hosted by local partners including the BLM, Town of Meeker, ERBM and MAMBA.

Library collecting recipes for Community Cookbook

MEEKER | Stop by the library to pick up a Recipe Form, or drop an email request to kristi@meekerlibrary.org for a digital version.

Suits concert in Craig April 25

MEEKER | Adults 18+, step back in time with The Suits! ERBM Recreation & Park District is providing transportation and admission to this Craig Concert Association-sponsored performance on Saturday, April 25. Cost is \$30 per person (dinner cost is the responsibility of the participant.) Sign up at erbmec.com/suitstrip or stop by Meeker Rec Center, 101 Ute Road. Register by April 13. Questions: 970-878-3403



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.



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FRESH QUALITY MEAT SPECIALS



Chicken Drumsticks or Thighs **\$1.79 lb.**



CAB Boneless Chuck Pot Roast **\$7.99 lb.**



Boneless Pork Loin Chops **\$2.99 lb.**

FRESH PRODUCE SPECIALS



1 lb. Package Sweet Strawberries **2/\$5**



Basket & Bushel 5 lb. Bag Russet Potatoes **\$1.39 ea.**



Red Cluster Tomatoes **\$1.69 lb.**



Large Granny Smith, Fuji or Ambrosia Gold Apples **\$1.49 lb.**



Fresh Iceberg Lettuce **\$1.89 ea.**

DAIRY & FROZEN SPECIALS

Yogurt
Yoplait 6 oz. Select Varieties **10/\$6**

Cottage Cheese
Food Club 16 oz. Select Varieties **2/\$3**

Coffee Creamer
Starbucks 28-32 oz. Select Varieties **\$4.99**

Greek Yogurt
Oikos, Too Good or Dannon 4.5-5.3 oz. Select Varieties **\$1.29**

Orange Juice
Food Club 52 oz. Select Varieties **\$3.29**

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

GROCERY SPECIALS

Macaroni & Cheese
Kraft 5.5-7.25 oz. Select Varieties **4/\$5**

Juice
Langers 64 oz. Select Varieties **2/\$4**

Bacon
Food Club 12 oz. Hardwood Smoked **2/\$7**

Snacks
Fritos or Cheetos 6.5-10 oz. Select Varieties **\$3.49**

Oreo Cookies
Nabisco 9.21-14.03 oz. Select Varieties **\$3.99**

Snacks
Pringles 4.94-5.57 oz. Select Varieties **\$2.29**

TO VIEW THE FULL AD, SCAN THE QR CODE



EDITOR'S COLUMN

“Perfectionism is the voice of the oppressor, the enemy of the people. It will keep you insane your whole life.” ~ Anne Lamott

By NIKI TURNER
editor@ht1885.com



I've long told myself that the week we have a “perfect” paper will be the week I quit, and just about every week I think I've nailed it, only to find some error — sometimes egregious, sometimes minuscule — has slipped by. Then I mutter a few unladylike words and prepare to tackle the task all over again. My goal may be delusional.

Perfection, you see, isn't real. Even if something is perfect, it stays that way for only a millisecond. Ask anyone who just cleaned the kitchen or finished the

laundry, only to have someone emerge from a back bedroom with a stack of dirty dishes and a basket of dirty clothes. Laundry, in fact, is never really finished, because the clothes you're wearing right now are next in line for the wash and therefore technically dirty.

There are no perfect people, despite what social media tries to sell us. There are no perfect religions, either, because humans are involved. The same argument holds true for governments, orga-

nizations, books, paintings, software programs, apps — you name it. The best we can probably hope for is Mary Poppins' standard of being “practically perfect in every way,” and even that is a stretch.

The whole notion of perfectionism is flawed. Who gets to decide what — or who — is perfect? Is it the person with the most authority, power, privilege or money? Are they perfect? If not, they don't get to decide.

If you want to look to Scripture, the word “perfect” in the original languages implies the fulfillment of a

thing's potential. In other words, something that is fully mature, completely developed, whole and complete. That's a far different take on perfection than the one most of us let drive us to distraction in daily life, but it's also one that might actually make us better humans.

Instead of chasing perfection, maybe the better goal is wholeness. Whole people still make mistakes. Whole lives still get messy. But there's room in that kind of striving for grace, honesty and growth.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My two favorite men

Dear Editor:

Lately I've been hearing the term “born and raised here” quite a lot, as if it is a requirement for leadership. I do understand the thought process of not wanting an outsider to come into our beloved community and start changing all of the things we love, so to educate anyone that might be wondering about my husband's history, here is a little information.

Rich was born in Roosevelt, Utah, and moved to Steamboat when he was 2 years old. At 5, his stepdad moved the family to Craig where Rich grew up a little north of town on Highway 13. His stepdad worked at Peabody Coal. I met him in Denver while I was just “passing through.” When we met, he asked where I was from, I told him Meeker, he said, “Oh, I'm from,” and my first response was “I'm sorry.” We laughed about that, knowing that no one gets to determine where they are born, they only get to choose where they stay.

My dad, Rayburn Cox, was raised in Pao-

nia, and my mom Jeanie was raised in Gunnison. They settled in Meeker in 1981 where they raised their children and loved this community. I understand the deep pride that comes with being raised in Rio Blanco County, it must be in the water. My dad's love for this community surpassed even his health. This elevation was hard on his body, so he would have to go to lower elevation from time to time, but his love for this place and the people here always brought him back.

Before he passed away in 2004, he started the Church at Meeker, a non-denominational Christian church where loving God and loving people were the most important things. After his death others took over his leadership in the church, in 2015 they were again looking for a pastor. Rich and I had always wanted to come back home. This is the place we loved.

This is the place where it all started for us; we were married 30 years ago in Faith Baptist Church on the corner of 11th and Garfield, back when it was still painted

white boards. This was home.

In January of 2016 we had the opportunity to return home. Rich took the pastoral role at The Church at Meeker, where he has been able to continue in this Legacy of Love. He didn't just step into a pulpit; he stepped into a responsibility to the people my father loved so much. He didn't just “move here,” he has faithfully loved and served this community for the last decade.

I have had the honor of standing beside him for the last 30 years as we forged a life from scratch. He wasn't privileged to receive a family business; he had to make his own.

Learning along the way, successfully building businesses, a life, a family, doing hard things simply because they were the right thing to do. I have seen his leadership qualities, and he does not possess those qualities because of where he came from, but because of what he's come through. My two favorite men have more in common than just their good looks. They both know how to love and serve this community, not be-

cause they were born and raised here, but because they chose here.

*In loving memory of
Rayburn Cox,
Beth Ford
Meeker*

Gutierrez announces candidacy for hospital board

Dear Editor:

The Herald Times has also asked me a few questions and they are published in this week's newspaper.

If anyone else has questions they would like to ask, please reach out anytime, as I'm easy to find; either at Wendell's, home or photographing a local sporting event.

Your ballots for the May 5, 2026, Special District Election will soon be arriving in your mailboxes — your support and vote would be greatly appreciated. I thank you in advance.

Thank you to the voters of Rio Blanco County for the opportunity to earn your support and your vote for the Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District board, which oversees Pioneers Medical Center.

It is a pleasure to write, I was born in the “old” Pioneers Hospital and raised in Meeker, graduating from Meeker High School in 1979 and Mesa State College in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a minor in marketing. From the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s I lived in Steamboat Springs, working for a Xerox sales agent covering Routt, Moffat, Rio Blanco, Grand and Jackson counties. I later returned to Meeker to work for the Meeker Chamber of Commerce and began writing and photographing sports for the Rio Blanco Herald Times. I joined the newspaper staff in 2000 and worked in nearly every part of the operation — reporting, photography, advertising, distribution — and twice

had the privilege of serving as editor.

One of the greatest honors of my career was serving on the Board of Trustees of the Freeman Fairfield Trust. Fairfield's vision and financial support helped build Pioneers Hospital, which opened in 1950 to serve the people of our community. In a 1950 letter about the hospital's mission, Fairfield wrote, “It is my belief that the Pioneers Hospital should be maintained and operated so as to relieve suffering and save lives. Friendship, politics, religion, personal power and personal glory should not enter into the picture in the least.” His vision continues to inspire me.

My wife Wendy, who founded Wendell's in 1994, and I have been married since 2005. Together we have built several small businesses, including a coffee shop, Wendell's White River Roasters and Bobby's Memories, a community photo website. Between us we have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

These are exciting times for Pioneers Medical Center and for our community. For the past five years, I've advocated for returning our hospital district to a seven-member board — just as voters intended when our health special district was created in 2006. Since February 2025, I've attended every monthly Pioneers board meeting, and I'm encouraged to see the board moving back to seven members. I'm excited for the opportunity to run for a seat and help move our hospital forward, in a way which supports financial stability, accessibility, affordability and sustainable growth.

My interest in serving on the board is simple: service to our community. I truly believe in the pioneer spirit of the people who live here. This same spirit has driven my career, promoting the people, businesses and opportunities, which make our area special. Now I want to use my experience and communication skills to help our community continue to grow and thrive in these exciting times.

One key priority is keeping more of the revenue generated by our community hospital here at home. Strengthening Pioneers Medical Center

as a cornerstone of our local economy will help ensure it remains one of the best medical facilities in northwest Colorado. A Pioneers Medical Center ad in the Feb. 5 issue of the Rio Blanco Herald Times highlighted the hospital's economic impact. According to the ad, six new full-time jobs at the hospital generate 31 indirect jobs and two induced jobs — 39 total — contributing \$18.9 million in direct financial support to the community.

For more than 25 years as a sports writer, community photographer, newspaper editor and for the past 17 years, a business owner, I've worked to promote the people and opportunities in this region. I will continue doing so regardless of the outcome of this election because I believe in this community and its future. If elected, I would also support policies that convert more than 35 current contracted positions into full-time local jobs and help fill the 40-plus openings currently listed on the Pioneers Medical Center website. According to the hospital's economic impact data, filling those positions could create more than 480 direct and indirect jobs and generate more than \$236 million in direct financial support for our community.

Thanks again to all eastern Rio Blanco County residents, your support and vote would greatly be appreciated. God bless America, Pioneers Medical Center and all of us pioneers in eastern Rio Blanco County.

*Sincerely,
Bobby Gutierrez
Meeker*

A shout-out to a local restaurant

Dear Editor:

Just want to shout out to Ma Famiglia's and all its dedicated crew for a wonderful dining experience Saturday. They go all out to make sure all your needs are met. We are so fortunate to have this establishment in Meeker.

*Two grateful senior
citizen ladies
Meeker*

Endorsement of Bolton for hospital board position

Dear Editor:

Pioneers Medical Center is the heartbeat of Meeker and the White

SAVE THE DATE

FIRE READY

— A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION —

APRIL 23

6:00 – 8:00 PM

4H Building • Meeker

Join local agencies for important updates & resources to prepare for wildfire season

Speaker Presentation begins at 6:00 pm, followed by informal Q/A and a visit with

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Firefighters and Engines

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Rio Blanco Fire Protection District
BLM White River Field Office
US Forest Service- Blanco Ranger District
Colorado State Forest Service & CSU Extension
White River & Douglas Creek Conservation Districts
White River Electric Association, Town of Meeker
and community partners

be informed prepared ready

Chuckwagon Radino menu

April 20-23/24

Monday, April 20
Liver & Onions, Au Gratin Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli, Yogurt

Tuesday, April 21
Chicken Tortellini Soup, Caesar Salad, Breadstick, Peaches

Wednesday, April 22
Hamburger Gravy over Biscuit, Peas, Ambrosia Salad

Thurs/Fri April 23/24
Tilapia, Rice Pilaf, Brussel Sprouts, Peas

• Please call by 8am to reserve a meal.
(Chuckwagon: 878-9671)
(Radino: 878-9638)

• Suggested donation: \$2.50 for over 60 and \$10.25 for under 60.

• All Menu Items Are Subject to Change

HERALD TIMES
304 4th Street
P.O. Box 720
Meeker, CO 81641
970-878-4017
ht1885.com

EDITORIAL/ARTICLES
editor@ht1885.com

ADS AND DESIGN
ads@ht1885.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS & BILLING
accounts@ht1885.com

PUBLISHER
Golden Lasso Media, Inc.

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

River Valley. We're proud of it—hunters, ranchers, oil workers, families, and our aging neighbors all depend on it. But like so many rural hospitals, PMC battles fierce headwinds: razor-thin margins from rising costs, low reimbursements, and uncompensated care (about 70% of Colorado hospitals face the same squeeze); tough recruiting for doctors and nurses in our isolated spot; long drives for specialty care, mental health gaps, and affordability worries that top our community surveys; billing frustrations and cash-flow pressures; plus looming threats from federal cuts that could hit rural districts hardest.

PMC fights back smart—investing in tech, building orthopedic programs that draw patients from afar, leaning on the Pioneers Healthcare Foundation, and posting solid net income in tough years through careful management and community support. It isn't just surviving; it's innovating to stay vital.

But these challenges demand more than status quo. We need board members who grasp local realities, push hard for financial stability, and champion rural-specific fixes, with an outside perspective that widens the view instead of narrowing it. Businesses (and even nations) falter when insiders always win; fresh voices keep the roots strong.

That's why I'm sup-

porting Shawn Bolton for the one-year vacancy. Shawn calls it straight, communicates clearly, and brings community-focused grit. He's one of us—an outsider to the hospital's inner circle—who'll challenge complacency and fight for what we need.

Dr. Albert Krueger is a stellar physician—my own for years, and the one who guided me with wisdom and comfort when my parents were dying. I'd trust him with my life on medical matters. But right now, we don't need another insider. We need perspective. We need Shawn Bolton. Vote for Shawn Bolton. Our hospital—and our community—deserves the bold voice he will bring.

Paul "Buckshot" Sheridan
Meeker

Medical providers of Meeker letter of support for board candidates

Dear Editor:

"An educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people." — commonly attributed to Thomas Jefferson

As we approach this board election, we, the medical providers of Meeker (physicians, surgeons, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants), believe the hospital board and its members are paramount to Pioneers Medical Center's success—and, in turn, to the strength of Meeker's

healthcare and economy.

Delivering sustained, high-quality healthcare requires a complex and evolving understanding of business operations, healthcare finance, insurance systems, provider roles, education, and organizational leadership. It demands effective communication, collaboration across departments, humility, and a commitment to continuous growth. No single individual possesses all of these attributes. Rather, success depends on a careful balance—one in which the board provides appropriate oversight while empowering administration and medical staff to function effectively. This balance requires board members who are not only qualified, but also committed to ongoing learning, thoughtful decision-making, and humble collaboration with one another, administration, and the medical staff.

As the medical providers of the Meeker community, we collectively bring decades of experience to this perspective as providers who also serve as leaders in administrator roles. Many of us are also business owners, and all of us are deeply invested in this community. Based on this collective experience, we believe we can offer a meaningful perspective on the qualifications necessary for effective board service.

Recognizing that a position on the hospital

board is one of the most complex and consequential roles in our community, we took the time to interview each candidate running for the two open positions. Following these conversations and careful consideration, we are offering our support for select candidates, along with our reasoning.

Board service is demanding, often thankless, and requires a willingness to serve under public scrutiny. It requires courage to be a candidate, and we sincerely appreciate every candidate who has stepped forward. Their willingness to engage in this process reflects a shared commitment to our hospital and our community. This is not a popularity contest. It is our objective assessment of which candidates are best equipped to contribute to the effective governance and long-term success of Pioneers Medical Center.

For the three year position, we support Danette Coulter. She has deep knowledge rooted in decades of experience in healthcare finances. She has already proven herself as part of the Pioneers team. As the previous head of our financial department, she played an integral role getting us to our current position as one of the top critical access hospitals in the country with premiere services and financial stability demonstrated by more than 120 days cash on hand. Additionally, she is running with a clear vision and strategy to help us keep growing. And even with all her ex-

perience, she already demonstrates the requisite humility in plans to continue her healthcare financial education. For these reasons, we unequivocally support Danette Coulter for this position.

For the one year position, we support Dr. Albert Krueger. He also has decades of experience, not just in healthcare, but specifically as part of the Pioneers team. He has an impeccable record in delivering high quality, relationship based care. He has invaluable experience working with hospital administration, and he has successfully served in multiple roles of leadership within healthcare, including as chief of staff. It is for these reasons

that we believe his leadership will continue moving us forward, and that he has garnered our full support.

We sincerely hope the reader will carefully consider our recommendations and will not approach this vote in terms of popularity, but rather by who is most qualified. Please understand that our collective opinion is not a reflection of personal feelings, but rather an objective assessment of who we believe are the most qualified candidates. Ultimately, we are grateful for all of the candidates who are running.

Medical providers
of Meeker

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Julia's

With deepest gratitude for your unwavering support through the years, Julia's will officially close on April 30.

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Please join us to celebrate spring here at the Rio Blanco County Historical Society on April 19th, 1:00P.M. at 517 Park Avenue.

We are crazy busy with the coming Smithsonian Exhibit and some other big projects to help celebrate the Sesquicentennial! We have lots of news to share! Ms. Casey will be bringing her History Scholars to present their projects. A light salad bar lunch will be provided. Please feel free to bring a salad topping, side or dessert to share if you want. We can't wait to see you!

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Guarantor Account Summary
Guarantor Name: SAMPLE A SAMPLE
Guarantor Number: GN0000022

Past Due Balance	Amount Due	\$118.00
Current Balance	Amount Due	\$45.72
Amount Now Due	Amount Now Due	\$155.72

Payment Due Date: UPON RECEIPT

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Please note, there may be additional charges that have not yet been posted.

This is a bill from Pioneers Medical Center.

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Statement Number: SN000004572

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Guarantor Number: GN0000022

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Statement Number: SN0000022

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GUEST COLUMN: Meeker's 250/150 Celebration—two years in the making

By TERESIA R. REED
Special to the HT

MEEKER | It has been a few weeks since we had an article about the Sesquicentennial, but planning efforts are ongoing across the Great West Tourism Region of Colorado. The upcoming 250th anniversary

of the United States and the 150th anniversary of Colorado statehood in 2026—known as the “250/150”—were established through national and statewide legislative initiatives. Communities across Colorado have been invited to shape how these milestones are

recognized. **A Year-Long Celebration Taking Shape**

Local planning has focused on creating a year-long celebration that reflects the full and complex history of the White River Valley.

Organizations such as the White River Museum and the Rio Blanco

County Historical Society are preparing for the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit, interpretive programming, and continued stewardship of key historic sites, including the museum, the Garrison, Coal Creek School and the Milk Creek Battlefield.

The Smithsonian exhibit “Americans” will be hosted locally in May and June, offering a national perspective on identity and culture while connecting those themes to Meeker’s story. An opening reception is planned for May 15 with representatives from History Colorado and the Ute Tribe.

At the Milk Creek Battlefield, the July 3 guided tour will include “Taps” and a Native American prayer as a step toward honoring the Ute people and acknowledging the valley’s deeper cultural history.

Building on Strong Traditions

Uplift Meeker, Range Call, the Meeker Classic Sheepdog Trials, Meeker Mustang Makeover and others are incorporating commemorative elements into existing events.

The Meeker Classic will feature a presentation by the Buffalo Soldiers of the American West, connecting local heritage to the broader

history of African American military service and its ties to the Meeker Incident. The event is also expected to include a drone show through the 250/150 Commission.

Other longstanding events—including Range Call, the Fourth of July celebration, the Rio Blanco County Fair and the Mustang Makeover—will serve as anchors, with added historical interpretation rather than replacement.

The Community Wish List

After two years of planning, the foundation is in place and momentum is building.

Now is the time for community members to get involved—whether by sharing stories, organizing events or contributing in small ways behind the scenes.

This celebration will shape how Meeker tells its story—not only to visitors, but to future generations. Ideas have included:

- A community passport program connecting businesses and historic sites
- Downtown walking tours with historic photos and signage
- Rodeo events reflecting the early rodeo events
- A local history scavenger hunt

- Exhibits focused on ranching, cattle, and early settlement

- Projects recognizing the White River Ute people and Indigenous history

- Oral history and storytelling initiatives

- Youth art, essay, and photography contests

- Community art projects such as murals or quilts

- A local cookbook featuring historic recipes

- Time capsules and legacy projects

- A town-wide birthday celebration for Colorado and Meeker

Each idea offers an opportunity for individuals, businesses, and organizations to take part in shaping the celebration.

A Community Invitation

After two years of planning, one thing is clear: the success of Meeker’s 250/150 celebration will depend on the community itself.

The foundation has been laid. The ideas are there. The momentum is building.

Now is the time to step in.

If you have ever thought about sharing a family story, organizing an event, creating something meaningful, or simply finding a way to contribute—this is the moment to do it.

VINE & VITTLES

Whiskey? Or... whisky?

By ALEXIS HULL-STONE
Special to the HT

MEEKER | I was listening to one of my favorite bands, Skerryvore (<https://skerryvore.com>)—a Scottish Celtic rock group—wearing a merch shirt from one of the times I’ve seen them live in Denver. The shirt says “Made in Scotland. Powered by Whisky. I thought, now that may be a fun topic for Vine and Vittles, and just like that, here we are. This topic will span a few columns—too much for one go, so we’ll circle back now and then. To begin, let’s just get American whiskey tabled. It is its OWN thing. Same goes for Japan and the rest of the world.

Today, we’re diving into Scotland (whisky) and Ireland (whiskey), who many like to do their comparisons against. You ever notice how Americans tend to call Scottish based whisky ‘Scotch’, but we don’t call Irish whiskey ‘Irish’ - just... whiskey? FYI, the Scots call it ‘whisky’, not ‘Scotch’.

According to scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk, the main difference between the 2 is one has an ‘e’, the other, does not. (Bit obvious, right?) Apparently, this relates to the original Gaelic and Scotch derivations of ‘Uisge beatha’, meaning ‘Water of Life’. Uhhhh...YES PLEASE. That said, there are actually other differ-

ences between the 2. With this, we barely touch the topic of peat (think - that smoky, campfire smell/flavor so commonly found in lowland/Islay Scottish whisky).

Fun facts about Scotch whisky: Must mature in oak for at least three years

Production and maturation must take place in Scotland.

Single malt Scotch whisky must be made from 100% malted barley.

And for Irish whiskey:

Irish whiskey uses little or no peat, so there is usually no smokiness in these whiskies - much like a highland originating Scotch whisky.

Irish whiskey may contain a distillate of malt, a barley distillate and a portion of grain spirit.

Irish whiskey is distilled three times.

Like Scotch whisky, Irish whiskey must be matured for a legal minimum of three years.

That’s our first taste, plenty more to savor another time. Never to worry, we’ll pour again soon.

Alexis Hull-Stone is the owner of Off the Olive Branch, a specialty grocery, and On the Grapevine, offering quality wine, beer, spirits, mixers, and non-alcoholic options, at 317 E. Market St.

LOOSE ENDS: 'Dress for success'

By DOLLY VISCARDI
Special to the HT

MEEKER | We A sociological study determined that the way one dressed affected how that individual was treated. Many studies over the years have reported on the importance of the almost outdated fashion concept, “Dress for Success”. It used to be followed strictly to achieve a measure of success in the workplace or other public places. When the use of that word success is narrowed down to mean that projecting one’s own agency and freedom to dress any way that one wants, the sight of the oddest combination of garments can be astounding. Often parts of clothing and accessories can be associated with organizations known to restrict others’ freedom: the Ku Klux Klan, Nazis or white supremacists. Most of these groups are known to win over a segment of our country’s population by dressing the part.

Examples in the study included a military uniform and an expensive suit for conducting business. The study found that people attired in a way that represented their political, re-



ligious or cultural beliefs were deemed the most successful

and able to change others’ beliefs. This unquestionably reflected the confidence and capable leadership often carried off by someone that the individual admires. It later transmits to the political arena and proves to voters that they have made an unwise choice. The clothes usually did help “make the man or woman” and was taken seriously. Success could thus be predicted. The data was collected recently.

Interviews and business meetings that determined a person’s future have traditionally been conducted in face-to-face, in-person meetings. The pandemic’s effect on this tradition has added the non-traditional social media meeting using a laptop or phone.

The greatest honors and respect have been offered to our most well-known figures, as they have earned it.

It is not so apparent that this type of online business interview is turning out the best fu-

ture leaders. People can no longer count on their strong moral character.

They appear to have no stable, personal infrastructure. Where are the high values on which a well-functioning democracy counts?

Every aspect of our daily lives is shaped by those values and they don’t always appear to be honored or respected.

This version of the old adage is now “Dress to Impress,” as viewed daily on social media sites. Taking on that motto became even more essential for finding a path to power than success. The military touches help more in some circles. Although the study indicated surprisingly that appearing clean and well-groomed were the two predictable essentials for everyone to move through society successfully. This new study went so far as to especially analyze the behavior of people who dressed in a military fashion. They could list the individuals whom many more people chose to admire. It is disturbing when the political power gained from admiration turns to violence. It is time to change our focus on the old well-used mandate: “Dress for Success”.

HISTORY LESSONS: LeCompte, Part 1

By ED PECK
Special to the HT

RBC | Doctors could be adventurers too. The 1883 incorporation papers of the Meeker Townsite company include “E. P. LeCompte” as a member. I was able to track him down as Dr. Edward Palmer LeCompte. He lived in the White River Valley several years but didn’t stick around to become active in the formation of Meeker as a community.

Edward’s father was Samuel Dexter LeCompte, appointed the first Chief Justice of the Kansas Territory. Samuel had a town renamed in his honor: LeCompton, Kansas. According to his obituary, Edward enlisted in the U.S. Army as assistant surgeon in 1874 and served with General Custer in 1876 [the year of Custer’s last stand, June 1876].

“Assistant Surgeon” was the Army’s designation for doctor. The National Park Service says that LeCompte served with the 7th Cavalry but was part of Crook’s column not Custer’s. There was only one surviving surgeon with Custer: Henry Porter. U.S. Army pension records show Edward P. LeCompte served 1876-1882 as asst. surgeon, (no units mentioned on index card).

No matter which version you use, Edward was deeply involved with the Indian Wars. He lived in interesting times. In October 1876, E.P. LeCompte was assigned to Fort McKinney, Wyoming Territory as surgeon at the garrison along the Bozeman trail protecting travelers. Edward was there until December 1878 except for a short transfer to Fort D.A. Russell, Wyoming territory where he served under Wesley Merritt from Feb. 19, 1878, through April 1878.

E.P. LeCompte was posted at Fort Douglas, Utah from June 1878 to June 1880. Fort Douglas was a small garrison three miles East of Salt Lake City. He also seems to have been at Fort Hall, Idaho in October 1878 for a short stay.

In March of 1880 there was an incident at Fort Douglas, an old fashioned

duel with pistols and bad shots. Utah newspapers were filled with many embellished stories. The *Logan Leader*, April 2, 1880, contained this version: “The Salt Lake papers are full of accounts of a pre-arranged or impromptu duel, which occurred a few days since at Fort Douglas. Doctor LeCompte, at a dinner party, made some remark to a lady, for which he apologized. Captain C. B. Weston thought sufficient reparation had not been made for the fancied or real insult. So, blood must be shed.

The parties met the next morning in front of the officer’s quarters and began the affray. According to the *Herald*, Weston fired first, getting in two shots at LeCompte. LeCompte returned the fire; the first shot striking Weston in the left shoulder, breaking the bone and disabling the arm. Weston then turned round and LeCompte fired again, the shot striking near the side, opposite the loin and close to the spine, inflicting a flesh wound. The story has it that Weston then fell and tried to bring his pistol in play again, when LeCompte stepped over him and told Weston that if he did not leave his pistol alone he would be killed outright. Weston then desisted, and was carried off. The shot fired by Weston inflicted but a slight flesh wound in the arm of his adversary. The affair is being investigated by a military tribunal.”

U.S. Returns from Military Post lists Captain Charles B. Weston of Company D, 14th infantry as “sick in quarters since March 26, until August 2, 1880.” E.P. LeCompte was the only surgeon on duty at the post, so guess who was treating him?

On May 6, 1880 LeCompte was relieved of duty at Fort Douglas and sent May 10 to Camp on the White River, Colorado under orders sent from headquarters: Department of the Platte. I get the feeling that being sent to White River meant he was in the dog house. Captain Weston remained at Camp Douglas.

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Hands-on stewardship brings Meeker students to Yellow Creek

By SARAH STORM
Special to the HT

MEEKER | Yampatika, a nonprofit environmental education organization, recently partnered with RiversEdge West to bring a meaningful, hands-on learning experience to Meeker High School students. Led by restoration specialist John Leary, alongside Sarah Storm and Ann Franklin with Yampatika, students in Denee Dinwiddie's 10th to 12th grade agriculture classes spent the day with ranch owner Deirdre McNab on the 4M Ranch, working on a riparian restoration project along Yellow Creek.

Throughout the day, students engaged directly in stewardship by planting native riparian species suited to the area's dry, saline soils, including sage, Apache plume, three-leaf sumac, rabbitbrush, and Wood's rose. They also conducted a habitat assessment, observing exist-

ing vegetation and discussing land management challenges such as soil alkalinity, erosion, and the presence of invasive species like tamarisk.

A key component of the program focused on understanding riparian ecosystems, what they are, why they matter, and how they support both wildlife and water systems in northwest Colorado. Students explored the critical role of beavers in these systems and learned about Beaver Dam Analogues (BDAs), which have been installed on the property with support from the White River Alliance and The Nature Conservancy to help restore natural water flow and habitat function, with additional projects planned along Yellow Creek.

The group also discussed ongoing efforts to manage tamarisk, including tamarisk beetle biological controls and active removal using chainsaws and targeted herbicide treatments. Students considered

how they would approach restoration and land stewardship if managing the property themselves.

This collaborative project highlights the power of place-based education by connecting students to real-world environmental challenges and empowering them to be part of the solution. Yampatika hopes to continue and grow this partnership in the future, providing students with ongoing opportunities to engage in meaningful, hands-on conservation work.

Having both grown up in Meeker, Storm and Franklin agree, "it is extremely meaningful to help provide opportunities for students to connect with their local landscape and give back to the community that helped shape us both. We extend our sincere thanks to all partners, educators, and students who made this day a success."

Sarah Storm is the school programs manager for Yampatika.



COURTESY PHOTO

Meeker High School students Trent Sanders, Cade Mills and Wesley Thompson planting riparian plants at Yellow Creek during a riparian restoration project. RiversEdge West, Yampatika, and Denee Dinwiddie's ag classes coordinated the project with the 4M ranch.

Local youth places in top 10 at nat'l meat judging contest

Special to the HT

MEEKER | Blake Smith, a 12-year-old from Meeker, Colorado, recently competed in the Cowboy Meat Judging virtual contest hosted by Oklahoma State University Meat Science Extension.

The contest drew 281 participants from 20 states across the country, including Florida, California, Texas, Montana, Tennessee, and Kentucky, bringing together competitors from coast to coast—many of them senior-level judges.

Competing in the intermediate division, Blake placed ninth overall out of 56 contestants, earning a Top 10 banner. He also ranked in the top 20 percent overall across all 281 competitors and was the highest-placing participant from Colorado.

During the contest, Blake evaluated eight classes of meat, including three carcass classes, working with both beef and pork. Participants were judged on their ability to assess quality traits such as marbling, muscling, fat cover, and overall value, while applying industry grading standards.

In addition to placing classes, competitors completed a set of 40 questions testing their knowledge of meat science. In his placing classes, Blake earned an impressive

average score of 48.5 out of 50, including five perfect scores.

His results reflect strong attention to detail and a growing understanding of meat evaluation. Blake has been involved in meat judging for the past three years and has attended multiple judging camps through Texas Tech University. He has also toured meat science labs at Colorado State University and the University of Wyoming, further expanding his knowledge of the field.

"I really enjoy the challenge of meat judging, it's helped me learn a lot," Blake said.

Meat judging contests help youth develop critical thinking skills and provide insight into the agricultural industry, particularly how meat quality is evaluated from production through processing.

Blake is a student at Liberty Online Academy and is actively involved in 4-H, baseball, and football. In addition to judging, he is currently raising pigs and chickens for the upcoming fair and plans to show rabbits and a horse. He also enjoys wool and horse judging and plans to continue building his skills in future competitions. Blake has a strong interest in aeronautical engineering and hopes to one day work for NASA. Local youth interested in meat, wool, or horse judging are encouraged to get involved in 4-H opportunities in the Meeker area.



COURTESY PHOTO

Blake Smith, 12, of Meeker, Colorado, earned a Top 10 finish in the intermediate division at the 2026 Cowboy Meat Judging Virtual Contest, placing ninth overall out of 56 contestants.

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Sports & Recreation

Cowboys continue PR progress, strong finishes at Demon Invitational

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com



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MEEKER | The Meeker High School track and field team competed this past weekend at the Demon Invitational, turning in several strong performances on both the boys and girls sides as the season reaches its midpoint. Coaches said the meet reflected steady progress across the roster.

“Overall impressions of the team’s performance: it was a solid performance,” Meeker co-head coach Terrence Casias said. “We’re at the midpoint of the season now and all the hard work at practice is starting to show up during competition.”

Sophomore Ryan Hanberg led the Cowboys in the distance events, placing eighth in the 1,600 meters in 5:10.33 and fifth in the 3,200 meters in 11:27.34. Casias said the distance group continues to show consistent improvement week to week.

“The distance group has been impressive with their progress. Every week it seems like they are setting new PRs,” Casias said. “Ryan Hanberg took 11 seconds off his best time in the 1600 with a 5:10.33 and followed that up by taking two seconds off his best time in the 3200 with a time of 11:27.34. Jackson Steele took three seconds off his best time in the 1600 with a time of 5:56.96. Cameron Hanberg, after taking seven seconds off his best time

last week in the 1600, was within a second of his best time this week with a time of 5:28.66.”

Junior Tucker Chinn finished 10th in the 300-meter hurdles in 46.86 seconds and added a ninth-place finish in the long jump at 17 feet, 2 inches.

The boys 4x200-meter relay team of Sam Smithers, Jake Grieser, Tucker Chinn and Lawson Anderson placed fifth with a time of 1:36.55.

Freshman Jake Grieser had one of Meeker’s top performances, finishing second in the high jump with a clearance of 5 feet, 8 inches.

For the girls, sophomore McKenna Berthelson placed seventh in the 100-meter dash in 13.92 seconds. Berthelson said the team continues to adjust and improve through relay changes and growing chemistry.

“Our 4x1 had a lot of really good talent incorporated in this specific team,” Berthelson said.

She added that roster changes have challenged the group to build stronger chemistry.

“We lost two seniors since last year, so that’s made us have to experiment with different relay teams, practicing and being close with one another, not just one set relay team,” she said.

Berthelson said trust and effort are key to relay success.

“I think the way to have a successful relay team would be to have faith in your team and work

as hard as you can in practice and in the meet,” she said.

She added that while relays bring shared responsibility, they also bring shared pressure.

“With individual events there’s a lot more pressure put on just you, but with your teammates you all can help each other,” Berthelson said. “But there’s also some pressure that comes with having a team and running as best as you can to help your team.”

Berthelson said continued improvement has been a focus for the group.

“I think we’ve improved a ton even moving the relays around just by working with one another and getting used to how everyone works with each other,” she said. “And we’ve cut down our time each meet individually and as a team.”

Looking ahead, she said post-season goals are beginning to come into focus.

“With both the 4x100 and 4x200, we will have to see what our times are looking like, but I think we’re all really hoping to go to state at least in the 4x200 and hopefully the 4x100,” Berthelson said.

Senior Braydin Raley placed fifth in the 400 meter in 1:03.52.

In the 800 meter, junior Josey McClain led the Cowgirls with a fourth-place finish in 2:35.22. Casias said McClain’s consistency reflects her work in practice.

“Josey is a hard worker and very passionate about the 800,” Casias said. “She has high expectations for herself and has been really working on fine tuning her pacing and strategy for the race.”

Freshmen Tinlie Strate and Midy Camargo placed eighth and ninth in 2:45.74 and 2:47.93, respectively.

Meeker’s 4x100-meter relay A team of Berthelson, Julie Kracht, Addie Knowles and Raley placed fifth in the finals with a time of 55.06. The B team of Maria Lopez, Azalia Jessop, Jordyn Garcia and Valenzuela finished 10th in 58.56.

In the 4x200-meter relay, the A team of Berthelson, Kracht, Raley and Camargo placed sixth in 1:56.39, while the B team of Strate, McClain, Tacey Toon and Kinnley Smith finished ninth in 2:00.91.

Senior Rylee Sullivan placed seventh in the high jump at 4 feet, 8 inches. Sophomore Hailey Schwartz finished fourth in the triple jump with a mark of 31



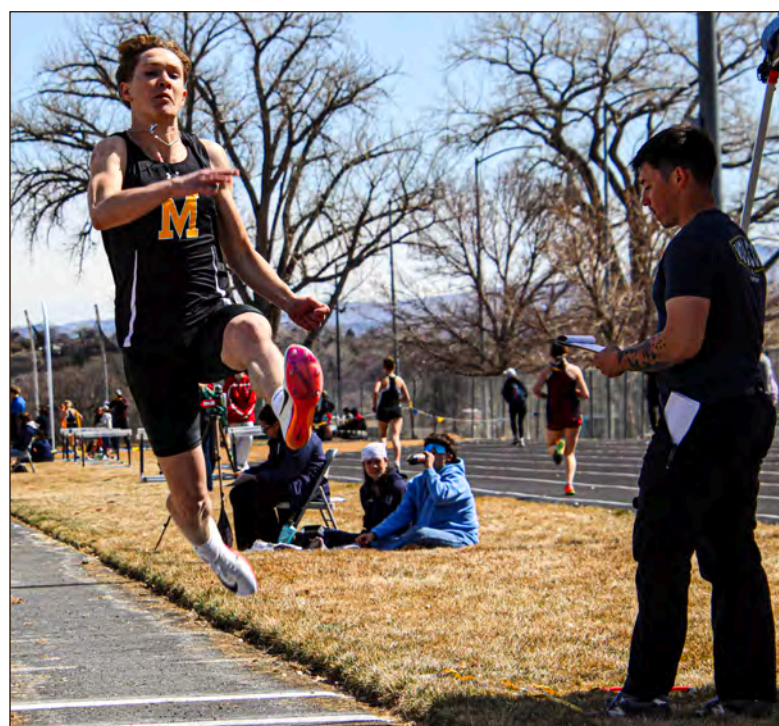
JARED HENDERSON PHOTO
Ryan Hanberg competes in a distance race earlier this season at a meet in Rifle. Hanberg turned in strong performances at the Demon Invitational, placing fifth in the 3,200 meters and eighth in the 1,600.

feet. Senior Addie Knowles continued to lead the Cowgirls in the field events, placing second in the discus at 104 feet, 2 inches, third in the shot put at 30 feet, 6 inches, and third in the pole vault at 7 feet, 3 inches. Casias praised Knowles’ versatility and leadership.

“Addie has a strong work ethic and a great attitude,” Casias said. “It’s rare to have an athlete who competes in discus, shot put, pole vault, and relays, but she always finds time for each of her events at practice and really puts in the work to be great at all of them. Her positive attitude and level head during practice and at meets is another reason why I believe she has been able to consistently compete at a high level in multiple events.”

Freshman Raegan Clatterbaugh added a fourth-place finish in the discus at 91 feet, 8 inches.

Meeker will return to action this weekend in Silt at Coal Ridge High School on April 17, followed by a meet in Rangely on April 18. Both meets are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m.



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO
Tucker Chinn competes in the long jump during a meet earlier this season, this past weekend he soared through the air as he recorded a mark of 17 feet, 2 inches at the Demon Invitational. Chinn also competed in the 300-meter hurdles for the Cowboys

Panthers post strong showing at Phil Wertman Invitational

Special to the HT

RANGELY | The Rangely High School track and field team turned in a strong performance at the Phil Wertman Invitational on April 10, competing against 21 teams largely from larger 3A, 4A and 5A schools.

The Panthers’ girls team placed eighth overall, while the boys finished 12th.

Taya Wren led the

way with a standout performance in the 1,600-meter run, breaking the school record with a time of 5 minutes, 10.58 seconds to take second place. The mark also set a new personal record.

On the girls side, Natalie Bollinger recorded a second-place finish in pole vault (8 feet, 9 inches), while Taylor Fouch placed second in shot put (34-2). Aubrianna Tapia added a

fourth-place finish in shot put (31-9). The 4x400 relay team of Wren, Haiden Garcia, Aubrey Yates and Kira Jo Benson posted a personal-best time of 4:29.78.

Additional personal records came from Yates in the 200-meter dash (29.04), Rachel Larsen in the 400 (1:32.57) and Isabella Cox in shot put (27-2).

For the boys, the

Panthers saw several top finishes and personal records. Joseph Valdez placed seventh in the 400-meter dash with a personal-best 52.28, and the 4x400 relay team of Chance Allred, Logan Peterson, Valdez and Tavan Morgan took fourth with a personal-best 3:39.12. The 4x800 relay team also recorded a personal best, finishing fifth in 8:55.89.

In field events, Kacey

Allred placed third in pole vault (11-3), while Landon Bollinger took fifth in long jump (19-6). Cutler Mergelman added a fifth-place finish in shot put (43-2) with a personal record.

The Panthers will return to action at home Saturday, April 18, hosting the Rangely Panther Invitational. Field events begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by running events at 10 a.m.



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Meeker baseball continues growth despite setbacks against Cardinals, Miners

By JARED HENDERSON
jared@ht1885.com

MEEKER | The Meeker High School baseball team opened its week on the road in Parachute on Tuesday, facing Grand Valley. The last meeting between the two teams came May 6, 2025, when the Cowboys earned a 4-0 win. This time, however, the Cardinals responded on their home field, edging Meeker 10-9 in eight innings.

Despite the loss, Meeker continued to show offensive growth, scoring nine runs on eight hits while drawing eight walks to maintain pressure throughout the game. The Cowboys finished with a .267 team batting average and added eight stolen bases in an aggressive effort on the basepaths.

Sophomore Logan Selby led the offense, going 2-for-5 with a triple and two RBIs. Junior Heriberto Lopez also contributed, finishing 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a run scored, while senior Augie Halstead

added a hit, an RBI and reached base twice.

Additional contributions came throughout the lineup, with Cade Mills, Gavin Allen and Hoyt Garcia each recording a hit. Meeker's speed was also a factor, with Said Rodriguez and Jaxen Mills each stealing two bases.

On the mound, junior Cade Mills delivered a strong relief performance, tossing 4 1/3 scoreless innings with five strikeouts while allowing just three hits. Said Rodriguez started the game, allowing one earned run over two innings, while Lopez and Jaxen Mills also saw time on the mound.

Grand Valley capitalized on timely hitting and patience at the plate, collecting 14 hits and drawing 12 walks. JJ Whitting led the Cardinals with three hits and two runs scored, while Tyler Palcer and Wyatt Harris each drove in two runs.

The game remained tight throughout, with both teams trading runs

before Grand Valley pushed across the winning run in extra innings. Meeker finished with a .931 fielding percentage, committing two errors, but the Cardinals took advantage of key late opportunities to secure the win.

"We need to continue competing," head coach James Romansky said. "Constant one-run ballgames take a toll, but it shows how much more competitive and dangerous we are as a team than we were last year."

Three days later, the Cowboys returned home for their home opener against North Fork. The teams last met May 10, 2025, when Meeker fell 7-4. The Miners again came out on top, defeating the Cowboys 7-5 in a competitive league matchup.

Meeker continued its offensive improvement, recording nine hits and posting a .300 team batting average, but was unable to overcome North Fork's pitching late in the game.

Mills led the Cowboys at the plate with a stand-out performance, going 3-for-4 with a double, a triple and an RBI. He also scored a run and finished with a 2.250 OPS. Selby added two hits, including a double, while freshman Bryant Turner drove in two runs. Halstead and Garcia each added an RBI, and Lopez chipped in a hit and a run scored.

However, Meeker struck out 14 times, limiting its ability to sustain rallies. The Cowboys drew three walks and posted a .364 on-base percentage.

On the mound, Mills turned in another strong outing, pitching six innings with 11 strikeouts while allowing four earned runs. Lopez worked the final inning in relief.

North Fork tallied 10 hits and took advantage of key opportunities, using timely hitting to secure the win. Defensively, Meeker remained solid, committing just one error and finishing with a .960 fielding per-



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO
Meeker senior Augie Halstead (#3) stands on third base during the Cowboys' home opener against North Fork, putting himself in scoring position as Meeker looked to generate offense.

centage, but North Fork's consistency at the plate proved to be the difference.

"Grand Valley showed us we can't coast, even with a lead," Romansky said. "We have to treat every inning like it's 0-0. And against North Fork, I liked how we fought. We didn't roll over — we gave ourselves a chance late."

Despite the pair of losses, Meeker continued to show progress, remaining competitive in both games against strong opponents.

"Each close game has come down to a couple

plays," Romansky said. "We're very close. We can score runs and create pressure — now it's about having the discipline to hold a lead."

The Cowboys, now 1-6-1 overall and 1-3 in league play, will stay at home this week. Meeker hosts Moffat County for a nonleague doubleheader Tuesday, April 14, with games scheduled for 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., before wrapping up the week Thursday, April 16, against Basalt at 3 p.m. in another nonleague matchup.

"We've got to set the tone early and carry that

intensity all week," Romansky said. "It's a busy stretch, so we'll take it one game at a time and stay focused pitch by pitch. The boys are resilient — they know they're close, and now it's about turning those moments into wins."

Despite the setbacks, Meeker has remained competitive in tight contests, showing steady growth as the Cowboys work to turn strong performances into wins as the season moves forward.



JARED HENDERSON PHOTO
Meeker sophomore Logan Selby steps into the batter's box at home plate, settling in before an at-bat during the Cowboys' matchup with North Fork.

Meeker Chamber to host golf tournament May 30

Special to the HT

MEEKER | The Meeker Chamber of Commerce will host its 2026 Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 30, at the Meeker Golf Course, 903 County Road 13. Check-in begins at 8 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. The event will feature a four-person scramble format with a maximum of 12 teams, 18 holes of play, and hole contests and prizes.

Registration is \$90 per player, which includes green fees, cart and lunch provided by the chamber. Teams of four can register for \$360.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

Participants can register at the Meeker Golf Course or by calling 970-878-5642. The deadline to register is May 23.

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MEEKER CHAMBER MONTHLY UPDATE

March 2026

The Meeker Chamber of Commerce stayed busy through March supporting local businesses, assisting visitors, and promoting Meeker tourism.

Visitor Services and Outreach

In April, the Chamber assisted 63 individuals with membership support, local information, and visitor services. With the launch of the Vinrock marketing campaign, we have also seen increased interest in Meeker, including seven requests for visitor guides.

New Member / Tourism Coordinator

The Chamber welcomed new member Mountain Mused Tattoo and new Tourism Coordinator April Ruiz.

Tourism Promotion

The Chamber's tourism marketing campaign with Vinrock Media is now live and will run April through August, utilizing paid advertising on social media and YouTube made possible by Lodging Tax funding. Work is also underway to reestablish the Flat Tops Scenic Byway group with regional stakeholders. Additionally, local contractor Bill Woller assisted in revamping the kiosks outside the Chamber to enhance the visitor experience.

Uplift Meeker Projects

Round two of the 250/150 Coloring Contest launched April 3. Work continues on the "Pioneers in Paint" mural series, with a community paint project planned. "See Me" flags and a new Town Park photo spot are also in development.

Looking Ahead

The Chamber is developing a Small Business Series featuring workshops on AI, bookkeeping, and social media. Planning is also underway for the Chamber's first-ever golf tournament. Contact the Meeker Chamber of Commerce for more information on classes and sponsorship opportunities.

PMC Special Election May 5 — Candidate Profiles

Special to the HT

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Pioneers Medical Center submitted the candidate profiles it received from the four individuals running for two seats on the board. The HT also sent specific questions to each candidate. Their profiles and responses, edited for space constraints, are included here.*

ONE-YEAR TERM CANDIDATES

SHAWN BOLTON

Background: I grew up on a small farm outside Fruita, raised by my grandparents—people from a tougher era who taught me to fix what breaks, waste nothing and keep moving. That shaped everything that came after. I brought those values to Meeker, where I started my business in 2001 serving the oil, gas and agricultural industries. We've grown to about 30 local jobs. It's not flashy, but we fill a real need.

I later served two terms as Rio Blanco County commissioner from 2010 to 2018, helping complete infrastructure projects that still matter today. One of the biggest eye-openers came from serving on the County Board of Health, where I saw how fragile rural medical access can be—and how essential reliable, quality care is for our community.

Why are you interested in serving on the hospital district board?

I consider myself a local. Misty and I raised our kids here, and we just

welcomed a new grandchild. Access to excellent healthcare has to remain a priority. I want to protect what's working, encourage smart growth and make sure PMC remains the rock we all lean on.

We face ongoing challenges—changing population, shifts in energy industries and tight housing. PMC not only provides care, it employs 230 people and may be the largest "industry" in the county. Without it, we lose jobs, families and quality rural healthcare. **What do you see as the most important healthcare needs in our community?**

The most important needs are the core services already being offered. In a rural community, access is everything. That means maintaining Meeker Family Healthcare for routine care and ensuring the ER remains strong for emergencies.

We cannot take those services for granted. The board's job isn't just budgets and meetings—it's making sure the clinic stays open and the ER doesn't fail. If those services disappear, the community loses.

What priorities would you like the board to focus on over the next several years?

Competition from other communities is real, but PMC's orthopedic program shows we can compete. It draws patients from outside the area, supports expansion and brings in high-quality surgeons. It keeps lo-



Shawn Bolton

cals from traveling and boosts the economy.

Other priorities include mental health services, telehealth access, senior care, low-cost screenings, transportation, charity plans, fundraising, recruitment and retention, housing and pursuing grants. The goal is sustainability and smart growth—no over-reach.

HT Questions

As the owner of a construction company with land near the hospital, how would you address potential conflicts of interest?

The land I partially own near the hospital is currently for sale. If a conflict arose, I would recuse myself.

How could your experience in construction and development benefit the hospital?

With more than 25 years in construction and excavation, I bring experience in development, growth evaluation, budgeting and asset management. Healthcare is different, but the financial bottom line matters. I also have experience with financial and regulatory



Dr. Albert Krueger

audits.

Why are you running for a seat on the hospital board?

I see great potential at Pioneers Medical Center and want to help guide it into the future. A diverse board creates accountability and transparency.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing our local hospital right now?

Attracting and retaining staff, and housing. These are difficult but manageable with creative solutions.

What sets you apart from the other candidate?

I offer a fresh perspective. I live and work in Meeker and see firsthand the needs of those most affected by hospital decisions. I value honest, direct communication.

DR. ALBERT KRUEGER

Background:

- Licensed, board-certified family physician
- Nine years at Pioneers Medical Center
- Experience in the U.S., South Africa and Indonesia
- Eight years as Rio Blanco County coroner

- Former medical director roles across multiple PMC services
- Helped start the special hospital district, orthopedic program and Piceance Clinic
- Background in oil field medical support
- Active in agriculture and Farm Bureau

Why are you interested in serving on the hospital district board?

- Serve with knowledge and experience
- Ensure access to care now and in the future

- Help PMC adapt to changes in healthcare
- Support financial stability

- Remain accountable to the community
- Partner with leadership and medical staff

What do you see as the most important healthcare needs in our community?

- Timely access to care
- 24/7 emergency services
- High-quality primary care
- Prevention through education and screenings
- Mental health resources
- Inpatient and end-of-life care
- Continued surgical excellence
- Nursing home care
- Broad specialist services
- Strong patient experience
- Efficient, integrated IT systems

HT Questions

As a former doctor at the hospital, how will you transition from a clinical role to a governance role?

As a physician, I focused on patient care. As a board member, I would help guide the organization, support leadership and ensure accountability to the community. Both roles focus on improving community health.

What insights from your time practicing medicine would guide your decisions on the board?

Relationship-based care, honest communication and collaboration are key. Good governance requires listening, asking questions and making balanced decisions grounded in the hospital's mission.

Why are you running for a seat on the hospital board?

After 29 years at PMC, I feel a strong commitment to its success. It is a highly successful organization built by the community, and I want to support its continued growth.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing our local hospital right now?

Declining federal funding and uncertainty around Medicare/Medicaid. PMC must embrace new ideas, technology and home-based care. Workforce housing and childcare are also major concerns.

What sets you apart from the other candidate?

My experience across clinical care, leadership roles, EMS, public health and agriculture provides a broad perspective.

Cont. on Page 11

Livestock judging team competes in Greeley

Special to the HT

MEEKER | 4-H members and coaches from both ends of the county traveled to Greeley, Colorado, this past weekend to compete at the Weld County Livestock Judging Contest on Saturday, April 11, 2026.

At the contest, there were 72 juniors making 18 junior teams and 52 seniors making 14 senior teams.

Rio Blanco County was represented with two junior teams, and Hattie Brennan was the only senior so she combined with a senior team from Logan County. One junior team consisted of Klayton Carroll, Milo Brennan, Copen Smith and Annabeth Moody. The other team consisted of Paisley Potter and Whitney Carroll, and they were combined with two kids from Weld County to complete the team.

The kids are scored in several divisions: beef, sheep and goat, swine, placings, questions, reasons and overall. This was a large contest with 10 classes to judge. Two of the classes had 10 questions each, and there were three sets of reasons for juniors and four sets of reasons for seniors. Kids are typically recognized at the contest individually when ranking in the top 10 and as a team when ranking in the top 5.

Milo Brennan placed 49th in beef, 5th in swine, 28th in sheep and goat, 5th in questions, 52nd in reasons, 36th in placings and 30th overall. Annabeth Moody placed 37th in beef, 26th in swine, 36th in sheep and goat, 14th in questions, 26th in reasons, 43rd in placings and 33rd overall. Copen Smith placed 55th in beef, 35th in swine, 60th in sheep and goat, 54th in questions, 30th in reasons, 58th in placings and 52nd overall. Klayton Carroll placed 61st in beef, 41st in swine, 38th in sheep and goat, 26th in questions, 49th in reasons, 67th in placings and 61st overall. Their team placed 16th in beef, 6th in swine, 10th in sheep and goat, 3rd in questions, 12th in reasons, 14th in placings and 10th overall. Paisley Potter placed 2nd in beef, 1st in swine, 24th in sheep and goat, 30th in questions, 6th in reasons, 5th in placings and 6th overall, earning herself an all-state point. Whitney Carroll competed as a novice junior and placed 57th in beef, 70th in swine, 52nd in sheep and goat, 72nd in questions, 54th in reasons, 60th in placings and 62nd overall. In the novice division, Whitney placed second out of nine in reasons and sixth out of nine overall. Their team with the Weld County kids placed 10th in beef, 12th in swine, 14th in



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, back row: Hattie Brennan, Milo Brennan, Klayton Carroll and Paisley Potter. Front row, from left: Annabeth Moody, Copen Smith and Whitney Carroll.

sheep and goat, 14th in questions, 9th in reasons, 11th in placings and 14th overall. On the senior side, Hattie placed 20th in beef, 29th in swine, 29th in sheep and goat, 32nd in questions, 21st in reasons, 29th in placings

and 29th overall. Her combined team with Weld County placed 2nd in beef, 2nd in swine, 2nd in sheep and goat, 5th in questions, 3rd in reasons, 1st in placings and 2nd overall.

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PMC Special Election May 5 — Candidate Profiles

Cont. from Page 10

THREE-YEAR TERM CANDIDATES

DANETTE COULTER

Background:

I have lived in Meeker for more than 46 years and co-own Coulter Aviation. I retired in 2023 after 23 1/2 years at Pioneers Medical Center as revenue cycle director, overseeing operations for both clinic and hospital. I understand how daily decisions impact long-term financial health.

Why are you interested in serving on the hospital district board?

Pioneers exists because of community support. It provides essential care, supports jobs and drives the local economy. Strong governance is key to maintaining financial stability and quality care. My focus would be protecting the hospital's mission, ensuring responsible stewardship and acting in its best interests.

What do you see as the most important healthcare needs in our community?

Continued access to local care. Rural hospital closures are devastating. The Community Needs Assessment identifies ongoing concerns like mental health, substance abuse and affordability, which the hospital continues to address. Rising costs and declining reimbursements remain challenges.

What priorities would you like the board to focus on over the next several years?

Develop a culture of excellence through patient-centered care. Support staff and workforce retention. Plan for long-term sustainability through strategic growth. Housing will remain a challenge. The board must focus on governance—not management—and provide strong leadership and planning.

HT Questions

The hospital relies on the airport for emergency flights; how would you manage potential conflicts of interest?

There is no conflict. The airport is publicly owned, and Coulter Aviation operates under con-

tract. If a conflict arose, I would recuse myself.

How would you ensure fairness in decisions that could involve airport operations?

By relying on facts, transparency and recusal when necessary.

What are your top three priorities if elected?

1. Protect financial viability and access to care
2. Address workforce challenges and reliance on travelers
3. Support patient-centered care and high-quality outcomes

What role should the hospital play in serving a rural community like ours?

Pioneers provides essential care and is the only local medical provider. It works with regional partners and uses tools like telehealth to expand access. It is also the largest employer and a major economic driver.

What sets you apart from the other candidate?

More than 23 years of hands-on experience at Pioneers, from front-line roles to leadership, with deep knowledge of operations, finance and compliance.

BOBBY GUTIERREZ

Background:

Thank you to the voters of Rio Blanco County for the opportunity to earn your support for the Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District board, which oversees Pioneers Medical Center.

I was born in the "old" Pioneers Hospital and raised in Meeker, graduating from Meeker High School in 1979 and Mesa State College in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a minor in marketing. From the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, I lived in Steamboat Springs, working for a Xerox sales agent covering Routt, Moffat, Rio Blanco, Grand and Jackson counties.

I later returned to Meeker to work for the Meeker Chamber of Commerce and began writing and photographing sports for the Rio Blanco Herald Times. I joined the news-



Danette Coulter



Bobby Gutierrez

paper staff in 2000 and worked in nearly every part of the operation—reporting, photography, advertising and distribution—and twice had the privilege of serving as editor.

One of the greatest honors of my career was serving on the Board of Trustees of the Freeman Fairfield Trust. Fairfield's vision and financial support helped build Pioneers Hospital, which opened in 1950 to serve our community. In a 1950 letter, he wrote that the hospital should be operated "to relieve suffering and save lives," without influence from "friendship, politics, religion, personal power or personal glory." His vision continues to inspire me.

My wife, Wendy, who founded Wendll's in 1994, and I have been married since 2005. Together we have built several small businesses, including Wendll's White River Roasters and Bobby's Memories, a community photo website. Between us, we have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

Why are you interested in serving on the hospital district board?

These are exciting times for Pioneers Medical Center and our community. For the past five years, I've advocated for returning the hospital district to a seven-member board, as voters intended when the district was created in 2006. Since February 2025, I've attended every monthly board meeting and am encouraged to see that transition underway.

My interest in serving is simple: service to our community. I believe in the pioneer spirit of the

people who live here—the same spirit that has driven my career promoting the people, businesses and opportunities that make this area special. I want to use my experience and communication skills to help our community continue to grow and thrive.

One key priority is keeping more of the revenue generated by our community hospital here at home. Strengthening Pioneers Medical Center as a cornerstone of the local economy will help ensure it remains one of the top facilities in northwest Colorado. A Feb. 5 Rio Blanco Herald Times ad highlighted the hospital's economic impact: six new full-time jobs generate 31 indirect jobs and two induced jobs—39 total—contributing \$18.9 million in direct financial support to the community.

For more than 25 years as a sports writer, community photographer and newspaper editor—and for the past 17 years as a business owner—I've worked to promote this region. I will continue to do so regardless of the election outcome because I believe in this community and its future.

If elected, I would support converting more than 35 contracted positions into full-time local jobs and filling the 40-plus openings currently listed on the Pioneers Medical Center website. According to hospital data, filling those positions could create more than 480 direct and indirect jobs and generate more than \$236 million in direct financial support for our community.

Thank you again to the residents of eastern

Rio Blanco County. Your support and vote are greatly appreciated.

HT Questions

As a small business owner, what perspective do you bring to hospital leadership?

My degree in business administration and marketing, along with more than 40 years of experience in sales, marketing and distribution, my reporting and editing background—especially the ability to ask questions—and 17 years as a local business owner have all helped prepare me to serve as an effective board member.

For more than 25 years, I've written about, promoted and photographed community events, often focusing on local youth sports. I'm now photographing a second generation of local kids, which reinforces my long-standing belief in our community and the value of where we live.

As a business owner, I understand the difference between governance and management. Both involve setting a vision, surrounding yourself with capable people and giving them the tools to succeed.

I also understand competition. In our business, we stand out by doing things differently—air-roasting our own coffee beans and building partnerships with other local businesses. Healthcare is also competitive, and I believe what sets PMC apart is its providers and its people.

How would your experience managing a business apply to hospital operations?

My management experience includes more than four years as editor of my hometown newspaper, consistently publishing a weekly edition with a history of more than 100 years, along with managing our own businesses.

Good management comes down to trust, communication and strong relationships with employees, suppliers and customers. One of the board's most important responsibilities is hiring a CEO and leadership team, supporting them and providing oversight

and accountability.

What are your top three priorities if elected?

The first priority is recruiting and hiring a full-time CEO. I appreciate interim CEO Steve Hannah for stepping in during this transition.

The second is converting more than 30 contracted positions into full-time local jobs and filling the 40-plus current openings. Thoughtful growth—such as adding around 100 new families—would benefit the community while maintaining our rural character.

The third is improving local accessibility by continuing to learn about the healthcare industry and asking questions about how PMC can better meet community needs and fulfill its mission to improve health and well-being.

What role should the hospital play in serving a rural community like ours?

Pioneers Hospital has a strong history, beginning with its opening in 1950 through the vision of Freeman Fairfield. His belief that the hospital should focus on relieving suffering and saving lives continues to guide its mission today. I support that mission and its role in improving the health and well-being of our community.

What sets you apart from the other candidate?

Experience is what sets us apart. My opponent has more than 20 years of experience working at Pioneers Medical Center. I do not, so I will ask questions and learn how it operates.

What I bring is more than 40 years of experience in sales and marketing—meeting customer needs, building relationships and promoting people, businesses and opportunities in our rural area through my work as a reporter, editor, photographer and business owner. I have also attended all PMC board meetings since February 2025 and advocated for returning to a seven-member board, as approved by voters in 2006.

GRADUATION IS ALMOST HERE!

PARENT ADS

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MEEKER CLASS OF 2026 GRAD GREETINGS

DISTRIBUTED AT MHS GRADUATION ON MAY 23RD
INSERTED IN THE HT ON MAY 28TH

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Small

- Free color, free design
- 3.25 inches by 2 inches

\$30

Medium

- Free color, free design
- 3.25 inches by 4 inches

\$60

Large

- Free color, free design
- 5 inches by 4 inches

\$80

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE:
FRIDAY-MAY 1ST, 2026**

Send senior's name, desired size, message and photo (optional) to emily@ht1885.com or call 970-878-4017.

Prepayment required.





MEEKER CLASS OF 2026 GRAD GREETINGS

DISTRIBUTED AT MHS GRADUATION ON MAY 23RD
INSERTED IN THE HT ON MAY 28TH

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Page Sponsor

- Free color, free design
- 10 inches by 2 inches banner at bottom of page

\$150

Large

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- 5 inches by 4 inches

\$80

**ADVERTISING DEADLINE:
FRIDAY-MAY 1ST, 2026**

Send desired size, message and photo (optional) to emily@ht1885.com or call 970-878-4017.

Medium

- Free color, free design
- 3.25 inches by 4 inches

\$60

PUZZLES

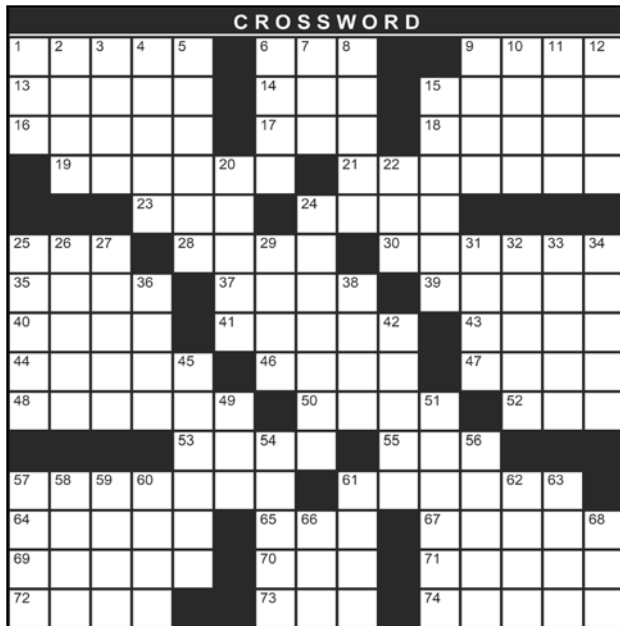
THEME: LEGENDARY ATHLETES

ACROSS

1. Capital of Tibet
6. Templeton of "Charlotte's Web"
9. Maisie Williams on "Game of Thrones"
13. Poisonous plant
14. UN labor grp.
15. George Orwell to Eric Arthur Blair
16. Movie genre
17. Shark part
18. Ax mark
19. "First Native American to win Olympic Gold"
21. "The Great One of hockey"
23. Be indisposed
24. Disfigure
25. Du Bois' initials
28. Hoodwink
30. Baking soda
35. Bypass
37. "Breaking Bad" product
39. Spelunker
40. Orchestra member
41. Charles Dickens' "___ House"
43. Family room staple
44. Like United States Capitol
46. "Cogito ___ sum"
47. Tongue-___
48. Stockholm dwellers
50. *Tiger Woods has won this award the most times
52. On the wagon
53. Silage
55. Almond-induced state?
57. *Jordan or Phelps
61. *Female player with most Open Era Grand Slams
64. Infant's woe
65. Seafood selection

DOWN

1. Drug in "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas"
2. John Mellencamp's "___ So Good"
3. Nanny in East Asia
4. Polynesian island country
5. Tick or mite
6. Abundant
7. *Boxer a.k.a. The People's Champion
8. Kingdom in South Pacific
9. Loads (2 words)
10. Nabisco cracker
11. Noisy talk
12. Like Zombie's skin color
15. Low on hemoglobin
20. Perfectly vertical
22. Adam's body part
24. Measured, like electricity on utility bill
25. *Tied for most PGA Tour wins
26. Curve like a bow
27. Biotic community
29. *O Rei of soccer
31. Throw a line
32. Steer clear of
33. Send to a specialist, e.g.
34. *NFL's 7-time Super Bowl champion
36. Got ready to drive
38. Old witches, usually



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42. Small steep-sided hill, in Africa
45. Vandalize
49. Johnny Nash's "I Can ___ See Clearly Now"
51. West African people
54. Choose by vote
56. Abominable snowmen
57. Med. sch. requirement
58. *Hall of Famer Bob Feller's home state
59. Hoofbeat sound
60. Nature walk

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

61. Narrow aperture
62. Zilches
63. Away from wind
66. Many, many moons
68. Approx.

DAYS GONE BY

MEEKER HERALD ~ 125 YEARS AGO

It is painfully evident that spring is sidetracked somewhere.

Representative Lyttle returned from Denver Sunday night, and will resume his old-time duties of editing and running the Herald next week.

The wholesale price of whisky is to go higher, but that will not shut off the supply of any of the

guzzlers.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 100 YEARS AGO

Before buying from peddlers or mail order houses — go to your home merchant and ask him what he will sell to you for CASH.

FA Carstens has been at work all week repairing the Meeker sewer line where it empties into the river at the Red Bridge. The tile was broken in several places which

caused the refuse to leak out. Mr. Carstens has encased the pipe in a solid coating.

The last three days have been of the real old "White river brand" — plenty of sunshine and real warm.

MEEKER HERALD ~ 50 YEARS AGO

"They're here, very definitely," said Dr. Earl Ryan. But he didn't have to tell dozens of elementary school youths

about the latest disease which has struck Meeker — the measles! A total of 55 students were out on Monday, 57 the next day and 67 Wednesday were reported missing.

"I was burning some willows down by the river when a couple of gusts of wind came up and it just got away from me," said Lee Watson of the fire which burned about 20 acres of his land across from Tommy's Supper Club last Friday morning.

RANGELY TIMES ~ 50 YEARS AGO

Jeff Anderson, All League baseball player from Rangely has been selected to play in the North-South All Star game to be held Aug. 14 at McNichols Area in Denver.

The Singing Shook Family will be at Bible Baptist Church presenting sacred music concerts. The pastor will be Billy Sutton of Colorado Springs.

RIO BLANCO HERALD TIMES ~ 25 YEARS AGO

Hosted by the historic Meeker Hotel and Fawn Creek Gallery, this year's World Record Elk Tour will feature some of the world's greatest elk and two new world records.

Sexual assault: April is the month for awareness. Eighty percent of sexual assault offenders are known to the victim and his/her family.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

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QUESTIONS? CALL THE HERALD OFFICE AT 970-878-4017

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Kortnee McLaughlin, Agent
Kris Deines, Agency Manager

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kortnee.mclaughlin@cofbic.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are hereby notified that the following pages comprise a resume of Applications and Amended Applications filed in the office of Water Division 6, during the month of **March 2026 (December 2025 Amended)**.

2025CW2 Rio Blanco County AMENDED Application for Change of Water Right **Applicants:** John F. Kenney and Shirley Jean Kenney, 9460 County Road 102, Rangely, Colorado 81648; jkjnKenney@gmail.com; 970-675-8705; **Name of Structure:** Robinson Wardell Pump 4; **Date of Original Decree:** 03/08/1978; **Case no.** W3118-76, Division 5; **Legal Description of Structure as Described in Most Recent Decree:** Located at a point N19° 10' 08" W22.27 25 feet from the East ¼ corner of S17, T1N, R103W of the 6 h PM; **Decreed Source:** White River **Appropriation Date:** 07/17/1974 **Amount Decreed:** Absolute 4.0 cfs **Decreed Use:** Irrigation **Amount Applicant Intends to Change:** Absolute 0.50 cfs **Complete Statement of Change:** Change point of diversion to irrigate same land. **Location Information:** Rio Blanco County, NE1/4, NW1/4, S16, T1N, R103W, of the 6 th PM. **UTM:** E161875 N444208 Z13 **Address:** 9460 CR 102, Rangely, CO 81648 **Source of UTM:** Handheld Garmin with accuracy of 10+ feet. **Owners:** Applicants.

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

You are hereby notified that you will have until the last day of **May 2026** to file with the Water Court a Verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain Application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must be served on the Applicant or the Applicant's Attorney, with an affidavit or certificate of such service being filed with the Water Court, as prescribed by Rule 5, C.R.C.P. The filing fee for the Statement of Opposition is \$192.00, and should be sent to the Clerk of the Water Court, Division 6, 1955 Shield Dr. Unit 200, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487.

CARMMA L PARKISON
CLERK OF COURT
ROUTT COUNTY COMBINED COURT
WATER DIVISION 6
[/s/ Carmma L. Parkison](mailto:clerk@carmma.l.parkison)
Clerk of Court

Rio Blanco Herald Times
Published April 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of James Thomas Riegel, aka James T. Riegel, James Riegel, Jim Riegel Deceased
Case No.: 26PR2
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before July 02, 2026, or said claims may be forever barred.
Drew Riegel,
Personal Representative
PO Box 729
Flint Hill, Colorado 22627
Published: April 2, 9 and 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Brian Levi Lewis, aka Brian L. Lewis, Brian Lewis, B Lewis Deceased
Case No.: 26PR1
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before August 14, 2026, or said claims may be forever barred.
JuaNita R. Henson,
Personal Representative
125 S Sunset
Rangely, Colorado 81648
Published: April 9, 16 and 23, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice of Petition for Change of Name
Public Notice is given on April 06, 2026 that a Petition for a Change of Name of a Minor Child has been filed with the Rio Blanco County Court.
The Petition requests that the name of Quinn Taylor Bear-Foster be changed to Quinn Taylor Foster.
Case No.: 2019DR30006
By: Alysha Smith
Clerk of the Court / Deputy Clerk
Published: April 9, 16 and 23, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice of Petition for Change of Name
Public Notice is given on April 06, 2026 that a Petition for a Change of Name of a Minor Child has been filed with the Rio Blanco County Court.
The Petition requests that the name of Jaxon Oak Gaglione-Foster be changed to Oak Garrett Foster.
Case No.: 2024DR30000
By: Alysha Smith
Clerk of the Court / Deputy Clerk
Published: April 9, 16 and 23, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

MEEKER SANITATION DISTRICT ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

March 31, 2026
Total Payroll, \$19,079.89
Quickbooks Payroll Svc. Direct Deposit Fee, \$74.00
FICA: SS, Med, Fed w/h, \$5,944.68
PERA Retirement, \$7,262.11
U.S. Postal Service: Postage, \$346.79
CEBT: Health, Dental, Vision, Life Ins., \$18,276.22
Kurt Nielsen: Meal Reimbursement, \$280.00
Mountain Valley Bank: Merchant Srv. Fees, \$113.09
of Colo.: 1st Qtr. Taxes, \$2,667.00
CO. State Treasurer: Unemployment ins., \$164.12
Atmos Energy: Natural Gas Svc., \$707.99
Cimarron Telecom: Broadband, \$200.00
Co. Analytical Lab: Nutrient Sampling, \$144.00
ERBM Rec. Center: Qtrly. Membership, \$146.00
First Bank Card: Misc. Supplies, \$356.12
Grainger: Misc. Supplies, \$135.45
Hach: Lab Supplies, \$180.44
Meeker Grocery: Misc. Supplies, \$113.61
Meeker Gen. Merc.: Water Softener, \$388.08
Meeker Sanitation Dist.: Replenish Petty cash, \$25.00
of the Rockies: IT Support, \$1,250.00
Kurt Nielsen: Mileage Reimbursement, \$398.75
Go Services: Trash Service, \$312.00
Finance Dept: Water Quality Program, \$2,489.00
Rio Blanco County Fleet Dept.: Fuel, \$696.46
Rio Blanco Herald Times: Publish AP, \$18.45
SGM: Professional Srv., \$1,240.00
Streamline: Website Maint., \$210.00
Town of Meeker: Water Svc., \$36.00
UNCC: annual billing, \$32.48
USA Bluebook: Misc. Supplies, \$1,519.60
West. Co. Elect. Control: Electrical Srv., \$900.00
Valley Repair: Vehicle Maintenance, \$3,589.67
Von Flue Auto Parts: Misc. supplies, \$567.81
WREA: Electric Svc., \$6,811.75
WR Distributing: Bottled water, \$39.00
Your Parts Haus: Misc. Supplies, \$77.98
Total Accounts Payable, \$76,793.54
Published: April 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

PAYROLL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TOWN OF MEEKER

3/31/2026
GENERAL FUND
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$67,301.30
CRA, Employee Retirement-Police Dept, \$4,124.34
CRA, Employee Retirement, \$10,452.84
CRA, Employee Loan Payments, \$1,037.75
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Ins., \$30,757.87
Employee WTH, Federal, \$6,612.39

WTH, State WTH, \$2,826.08
Employee WTH, Medicare WTH, \$2,629.02
Employee WTH, Social Security WTH, \$6,518.56
Standard Insurance Company, Life/AD&D Insurance, \$1,047.96
Washington National Ins Co, Cancer Insurance, \$53.49
All Copy, March Copier Lease, \$522.82
CNA Surety, Notary Errors & Omissions Policy, \$39.00
Craig Veterinary Hospital, Canine Neuter, Worming & Vaccinations, \$380.21
Dana Safety Supply Inc, Safety Supply Uplift / PD, \$23,633.00
Identity Graphics, Decals - Units 229 & 226, \$1,379.50
LN Curtis & Sons, Uniform Pants x2, \$186.08
MAMBA, Brd Aprvd Donation - CPW Grant Match, \$5,000.00
Meeker Collision, Repairs - Unit 225 / PD, \$1,596.65
Meeker Parts City, Gloves, 1 Ton Battery / PW, \$182.70
MGM, K-9 Food; Shlfr Food & Treats / PD; Gloves / PW, \$219.00
RBC Fleet Management, March Fuel, \$1,675.50
RBC ICT April Internet Svc, \$164.00
Superior Asphalt, 2026 Crack Fill, \$36,000.00
Alesco, March Coveralls, \$54.00
AT&T, March Cell Svc, \$730.21
Century Link, March Phone Svc, \$272.90
CO State Treasurer, 1st Qtr Unemployment, \$534.71
Column, March Legal Publications, \$52.03
Employers Council, Annual Membership, \$1,800.00
First Advantage, Drug Screen, \$43.87
GO Services, March Trash Svc, \$215.00
Home.Made, Safety Apparel / PW, \$600.00
IAPE, Certification Test - Ridgeway, \$175.00
LN Curtis & Sons, Uniform Shirts w/ Patches x2, \$229.47
MVB Visa, Phone; Pens, Ntpds, Calc Tape; Farewell / BOT; Ltr Oprns, Ntry Rnwl - Perkins, QR Code Generator / AD; EDCC Conf - Thomson / CD; Phone Chngs / SD; Game Cam, Shipping, Cld Strg, Fuel, Meals & Lodging for IAPE Trng - Ridgeway, Post Conf - Thompson, Trvl for Trk / PD; Art Barn Lights / PK; Fuel, CDOT Trng - Guereca, Weed Lic - Dinwiddle, Ball Hitch, Hitch Pins & Clips, Grinder Disks / PW, \$3,942.38
Networking of the Rockies, Shipping Chrgs - Monitors, \$410.00
Olszewski & Massih PC, March Legal Fees, \$3,150.00
RMR, March Claims, \$1,558.78
Samuelson's, Paint Supp / SD; Chain; Lumber, Fastners / PW, \$120.74
TransUnion, March TLO Membership, \$100.00
Valley Hardware, Srge Prctr, Ant Trps / AD; Tarp, Shlfr Clng Supp & Cable Ties / PD; Concrete, Nuts, Wshrs for Signage / SD; Grdn Spyr / PK; Paint Supp, Grndr Disks / PW, \$329.88
Watt's, Ppr Twls, Npkns, Coffee, Crm, Ice, Shlfr Clng Supp & Litter / PD; Coffee, Ice, Ppr Ptlts / PW, \$131.18
WREA, March Electric, \$2,473.12
Your Parts Haus, Oil & Fltrs / PD; Putty / SD; Air Frsh, Oil, Fuel & Oil Fltrs / PK; Air Frsh, Oil, Fltrs, Brake Kit, Brake Lght Bulbs / PW, \$590.71
Abila, Remote Trng - Budget Frms, \$110.62
AT&T, Feb Cell Svc, \$730.21 Atmos, March Natural Gas, \$1,311.64
Axis Steel, 3rd & 10th St Sign Supp / SD; Tire Rack Mat / PW, \$2,330.04
Century Link, Feb Phone Svc, \$272.94
CNA Surety, Public Officials Bond, \$922.25
CNC Technical Services, Radio Batteries / PD, \$979.08
Edwards, Jay, March Muni Judge Svc, \$200.00
First Advantage, Drug Screen - Archuleta, \$21.94
Herald Times, Legal Publications, \$546.00
IAPE, Evidence Mngmnt Refresh Class - Ridgeway / PD, \$340.00
Jean's Printing, Envelopes; Summons & Complaints Forms / PD, \$1,029.69
MVB Visa, Lng Dist Phn Chrgs, Paper, Envlps, Pst-Its; Nm Plate / BOT; Nm Plate, Shl Prctrs / CD; Phn System Equip & Fence Panels for Twn Bldg / SD; Cloud Strg, Glass for Shlfr Window, K-9 Challenge Fee, Prking Signs, Doorbell, Shppng Labels, Jckt Patches, Trng Meals, Lodging, Fuel - Thompsn, Yates / PD; Trvl Meals - Kiduff, Sfty Glasses & Lenses, Wldng Lead / PW, \$4,631.45
Monitors, \$12,120.00
NW Auto, 2024 GMC Terrain / SD, \$24,100.20
RBC ICT, March Internet Svc, \$164.00
RBC Sales & Use Tax, Feb Sales Tax Adj, \$65,099.70
RMR, March Admin Fee, \$74.10
TK Elevator, Elevator Svc, \$1,172.22
TransUnion, Feb TLO Membership, \$100.00
VRC, March Doc Destruction, \$112.64
Watt's, Ice, Coffee, Crm, Ppr Twls; Clng Supp / BLDG; Shlfr Supp - Clng & Sck Dog / PD; Coffee, Clng Supp / PW, \$162.41
White River Distributing, Bottled Water, \$46.50
Total General Fund: \$338,431.67
Town of Meeker, Payroll, \$18,625.44
CRA, Employee Retirement, \$1,991.02
CEBT, Health, Dental, Vision & Life Insurance, \$8,408.41
Employee WTH, Social Security WTH, \$3,154.44
Employee WTH, Medicare WTH, \$737.70
Employee WTH, Federal WTH, \$2,247.78
Employee WTH, State WTH, \$1,211.18
Standard Insurance Co., Life/AD&D Ins., \$354.90
Washington National Ins Co, Cancer Ins.,

\$79.86
US Postmaster, Wtr Billing Postage, \$313.23
All Copy, March Copier Lease, \$107.10
Ferguson, Warranty MIU's (x29), \$4,429.43
Meeker Parts City, Gloves, 1 Ton Battery, \$182.70
Nielsen, Scott & Carol, Reimb Closed Wtr Acct, \$84.83
RBC Fleet Management, March Fuel, \$348.78
RBC ICT, April Internet Svc, \$36.00
Timberline Electric, Fluoride System - Bill #1, \$9,330.65
UPS, Shipping - Timberline, \$132.24
AT&T, March Cell Svc, \$69.61
Century Link, March Phone Svc, \$20.73
CO State Treasurer, 1st Qtr Unemployment, \$152.42
Column, March Legal Publications, \$560.92
MVB - Visa, Phone; Pens, Ntpds, Calc Tape, Dsk Organizer, Trng Webcam, Class C Exam - Nielsen, Class D Rnwl - Archuleta, Ball Hitch, Pins & Clips, Grinder Disks, \$402.46
Olszewski & Massih PC, March Legal Fees, \$756.00
RMR, March Claims, \$465.62
Samuelson's, Lumber, Fasteners, \$29.76
UNCC, March Line Locates, \$71.81
US Postmaster, First Class Mailing Permit, \$370.00
Watt's, Ppr Twls, Npkns, Coffee, Crm, Ice, \$11.83
WREA, March Electric, \$2,803.45
Your Parts Haus, Brake Lght Bulbs, \$4.77
AT&T, Feb Cell Svc, \$71.64
Atmos, March Natural Gas, \$686.50
Century Link, Feb Phone Svc, \$20.73
Craig, CO, Water Tests, \$120.00
First Advantage, Drug Screen - Archuleta, \$21.93
Jean's Printing, Envelopes, \$63.58
MVB Visa, Lng Dist Phn Chrgs, Paper, Envlps, Pst-Its; Welding Lead, Chk Valve, Wtr School Meals, Lodging, Fuel, & Exam - Nielsen, \$1,105.11
RBC ICT, March Internet Svc, \$36.00
RMR, March Admin Fee, \$20.90
VRC, March Doc Destruction, \$22.52
Watt's, Ice, Coffee, Crm, Ppr Twls; Clng Supp; Qtips, \$30.76
Total Water Fund: \$59,694.74
Total All Funds: \$398,126.41
Published: April 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ANNOUNCEMENT

Meeker School District RE-1 is seeking proposals to complete asphalt seal coat and striping for all asphalt parking lots, roadways, and walkways on school district properties. Proposals will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on April 22, 2026. For a detailed scope of work, interested applicants may contact Chris Selle, at chris.selle@meeker.k12.co.us or 970-878-9040.
Published: April 9 and 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN and particularly to the electors of the Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District of Rio Blanco County.
NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a Special Election of the Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District shall be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. The election is being conducted as a mail ballot election. Mail ballots are required to be mailed to eligible electors between 22 and 15 days prior to the election date.
At said election, the electors of the District shall vote for Directors to serve the following terms of office on the Board of Directors of the District:
The names of persons nominated as Director for a Three-year Term:
Danette Coulter
Bobby Gutierrez
The names of persons nominated as Director for a One-year Term:
Albert Rudolf Krueger
Shawn J. Bolton
The address of the location for application and the return of mail ballots and the hours during which the office will be open:
Pioneers Medical Center
100 Pioneers Medical Center Drive
Meeker, Colorado 81641
A 24-hour drop box is located at:
555 Main Street
Meeker, Colorado
The office is open Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., beginning at least 22 days prior (April 13th) to Election Day and from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day (May 5th).
Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District
Pam Anderson
Designated Election Official
970-878-9791
Published: March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Date: April 8, 2026
RE: Meeker Regional Library District Roof Replacement Project
1. Introduction/Invitation. The Meeker Regional Library District, a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Colorado (the "District"), is in the initial phase of replacing the Meeker Public Library Roof (the "Project").
2. Procedure for Submitting SOQs. Kristina Selby is acting as representative for the District, and it is in the process of recommending a firm to serve as Design-Builder for the Project. Interested contractors are invited to submit a Statement of Qualifications ("SOQ") no later than April 24, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. MDT. Late submittals or submittals delivered to the wrong location will not be accepted. For consideration, responders must (i) obtain an SOQ form from and (ii) submit a completed SOQ to Kristina Selby at ksselby@meekerrlibrary.org. The SOQs will be evaluated, and the respondents may be reduced to a group of qualified firms prior to awarding a contract. The District expects to award a contract to the proposer who submits the proposal which, in the District's estimation, represents the best value to the District. The District reserves the right to act in its best interest and may terminate, modify or suspend the process, reject any or all submittals, modify the terms and conditions of this selection process and/or waive informalities of any submission. Published: April 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

SENIOR CITIZENS' WATER RATE REDUCTION PROGRAM

If you live in a household with one family member who is 64 years or older, as shown by a birth certificate, school records, military discharge documents, or other supporting documentation acceptable to the Town of Meeker, you may qualify for a reduced water rate during the months of May through September. Eligible households receive the first 8,000 gallons of water free each month (a savings of \$36.00 per month). Usage over 8,000 gallons per month will be billed per 1,000 gallons at the current rate. See Town of Meeker Fee Schedule for current rates.
To qualify, the total gross income of all residents in the household (including investments and retirement income) must be less than \$2,325.02 per month -OR- \$27,900.25 per year as evidenced by federal income tax returns for all household members for the year 2025. If you are not required to file an income tax return, provide proof of total gross non-taxable income received by the household for the year 2025.
If you have been previously enrolled in this program, the Town has your proof of age on file and will only require that you provide proof of your total gross taxable and non-taxable income. To qualify for the program for the month of May, please provide the town with the required information no later than May 15, 2026. If you miss the May deadline, you may still submit the required information to apply for the reduction in the remaining months of the program.
If you have questions or need more information, please call (970)878-5344. Posted to Town Website at www.rio-blancoco.gov.

townofmeeker.org and to Facebook on April 3, 2026.
Published: April 9, 16, 23, 30 & May 7, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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Published: April 9 and 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

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Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District
Pam Anderson
Designated Election Official
970-878-9791
Published: March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

TOWN OF MEEKER – BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, April 21, 2026
7:00 P.M. Town Hall
~
345 Market Street, Meeker, CO
Call-in number: 970-878-8091
Call to Order
a. Pledge of Allegiance
b. Roll Call
II. Approval of the Agenda
III. Swearing in of newly elected Mayor and Trustees
IV. Approval of the Previous Minutes
V. Approval of Monthly Disbursements
VI. Public Participation
VII. Staff Updates
VIII. Public Works
b. Police
c. Community Development/Planning
d. Town Clerk
i. Quarterly Financials
e. Town Attorney
New Business
a. Consideration of Resolution #05-2026 appointing a Mayor Pro-Tem
b. Consideration of Resolution #06-2026 Appointing Town Officers
c. New Security System for Parks
IX. Old Business
a. Library Board IGA
X. Manager's Report
XI. Mayor's Remarks
XII. Other Board Business
XIII. Adjournment
Published: April 16, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times



PRINT. DIGITAL. ALWAYS LOCAL.
Don't miss what matters. **HT**

COMBINED NOTICE - MAILING CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 26-02

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:
On February 2, 2026, 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)
Sean Berry
Original Beneficiary(ies)
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Beneficiary, as nominee for Paramont Residential Mortgage Group, Inc., its successors and assigns
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt
NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing
Date of Deed of Trust
May 28, 2021
County of Recording
Rio Blanco
Recording Date of Deed of Trust
May 28, 2021
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/Page No.)
322348
Original Principal Amount
\$320,124.00
Outstanding Principal Balance
\$291,413.26
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 Northerly 70 feet of Lots 10, 11 and 12 Block 42 Town of Meeker, Colorado TOGETHER WITH a strip of land 5 feet by 150 feet contiguous thereto on the North being the Southerly 5 feet of that portion of the East West alley in Block 42 as vacated by Sub Paragraph B, of Ordinance No. 216
Purported common address: 641 4th St, 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, 06/03/2026, 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 4/9/2026
Last Publication 5/7/2026
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: 02/02/2026

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 # CO26302

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.
©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
Published April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7
Rio Blanco Herald Times



ht1885.com/subscribe

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED



Meeker Cemetery District – Summer Employment Opportunity

The Meeker Cemetery District is hiring **two summer ground crew members** for the upcoming season. If you enjoy working outdoors and want a reliable summer job, this could be a great fit.

Employment Dates
May 1 – September


Primary Duties

- General grounds maintenance
- Mowing and other outdoor upkeep tasks

Pay - \$18-\$20 per hour, depending on experience

How to Apply
Completed applications must be submitted by **April 16**. Interviews will be scheduled after the application deadline.

HELP WANTED



Town of Meeker part Time Custodial Position

The custodian plays a vital role in maintaining the cleanliness and hygiene of Town of Meeker facilities. Responsibilities will include vacuuming floors, sanitizing restroom facilities, and collecting trash, among other tasks. This is a 28 hour/week position, paying \$17/hour. At The Town of Meeker, we pride ourselves on fostering a supportive and inclusive workplace culture. Join us in making a positive impact in our community by providing a clean and well-maintained space for everyone. If you are reliable, hardworking, and take pride in your work, we encourage you to apply and become a part of our team! Meeker is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

For more information go to <https://townofmeeker.org/job-opportunities/>

HELP WANTED

MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1 Employment Opportunities

Meeker Elementary School

- Music & Art Teacher
- Classroom Teacher

Application Deadline: April 10, 2026 at 4pm
Application Deadline: April 16, 2026 at 4pm

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

FOR SALE

BUSINESS FOR SALE: Profitable Mosquito Control Business for Sale in Rangely Co. Part-time summer work with a dependable local contract and a good income for the time involved. All equipment included, with truck \$136,000, without truck \$115,000. No owner financing. Will train and carry license for up to 3 years. Season starts soon. Don't miss out on this great once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.
(970) 706-8144

PUBLIC SERVICE

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:
7 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at St. James Church (Richards Hall) at 4th and Park in Meeker. Al-Anon meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. Enter from back parking lot, meetings are downstairs. For more information call Ray at 970-286-1841 or Bill at 970-948-9885.

ELDER CARE

Your Local Home Care Agency Since 2017



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>

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

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

RENTALS: MEEKER

Long-Term RV Parking Elec, Wtr, Sewer Includ 1st/last \$500 Email gimchp@gmail.com

For Rent: 2BDR, 1.5 BA townhouse available May 1. 970-620-0917

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.

"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

Head Lifeguard

Seasonal Part-Time
Desired hiring range \$22 to \$25/hour. PERA Retirement, accrued leave, MRC Membership, and more! Early mornings, evenings, split shifts, and/or weekend shifts + coverage on short notice. Possess, at the time of hire or promotion, a valid American Red Cross Lifeguarding Certification and 6 months of successful work performance as a Lead Lifeguard or Lifeguard.
erbmrec.com/leadguard

ERBM Recreation & Park District
Meeker Recreation Center
101 Ute Road, Meeker, CO
970.878.3403 | erbmrec.com

RIO BLANCO COUNTY Employment Opportunities

- Public Safety Telecommunicator \$27.60/training-\$29.35/hr after; B
- Relief Cook - \$20.20/hr; NB
- Fairgrounds/Columbine Park Laborer - \$22.75; B

B-benefitted: Medical, dental, vision and life insurance, paid timeoff, retirement
PB-prorated benefits
NB-Colorado sick leave accruals only

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

WRANGLER / RANCH MAINTENANCE
Meeker, Colorado

Seeking experienced equine professional (10+ yrs) for full-time ranch position. Duties include daily horse care & training, trail rides, equipment maintenance, fencing, irrigation systems, field & ditch work, snow removal, and general property upkeep. Must be reliable, safety-focused, and guest-oriented.

Mon-Fri, additional hours required during peak season. Full benefits package. \$55,000-\$70,000 DOE.

Call 646-306-7056 or 970-878-3714 for details.

Colorado Northwestern Community College WE ARE HIRING



www.cncc.edu/careers

With campuses in Rangely and Craig, Colorado Northwestern is a dynamic educational institution that values innovation and growth. We encourage you to explore available positions on our careers page.

Together, we can build our communities and help shape our students' futures!

Be prepared before the next power outage.



It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 866-977-2602 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC

*Terms and Conditions apply.

HANDYMAN

Home & Yard repair and maintenance. Haulway items. Spring clean-up \$20/hr. Temporary work. Estimates. Thursday-Saturday. 303-807-0650. Dean's LLC since 2017.

STORAGE

Contents of Rangely Self-Storage units 1, 5, 10 will be sold if not paid by April 15.

CABINETRY

MOUNTAINTOP CUSTOM CABINET SHOP. Custom cabinetry & carpentry work. Interior & exterior projects including decks, gazebos, trim and more. Call Jimmy Biscamp: 970-706-9799

1	9	3	7	5	4	8	2	6
2	5	6	1	8	3	7	9	4
8	7	4	2	9	6	1	3	5
6	3	2	8	1	5	9	4	7
7	8	5	3	4	9	2	6	1
4	1	9	6	7	2	3	5	8
3	2	1	4	6	7	5	8	9
5	4	7	9	2	8	6	1	3
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T	A	P	E	T	N	T	A	S	S	E	T

Classifieds start at just \$5/week!

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

REAL ESTATE CORNER

Tell your story. ads@ht1885.com
970.878.4017

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 rtolledo@colopress.net

JACUZZI BATH REMODEL Inogen

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply)
Subject to change and vary by dealer.
Offer ends 12/27/26
Call 1-888-763-4659

DISH Satellite COLORADO PRESS NETWORK

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

To Place a 25-word COSCAN Network ad in 91 Colorado Newspapers for \$300
Contact your local Newspaper or email rtolledo@colopress.net

Celebrating 24 Years - Same office. Same Location!

BROOKS REALTY
889 Main St., Meeker, Colorado
brooksrealtymeeker.com
(970)756-8772

866 Cleveland St.
Cozy, spacious hidden gem with covered front porch. 4BD/1.75BA, fenced backyard, 12x28 deck and new sprinkler system. 2,700 sq. ft.
Price Reduction: \$368,500

Inogen

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Alpine West Properties LLC

For Photos & Videos Scan Here

Your Trusted Source for Anything and Everything Real Estate!

TBD CR 15 - 3901± acre ranch w/ 3BD | 1BA | 1412 SF log home, 2 domestic wells, fenced pens/pastures, outbuildings and two ponds.....\$1,200,000
1509 CR 4 - 4BD | 3.25BA | 3810 SF 2-story home on 3 AC w/ domestic well, 30'x49' shop, 16'x31' loafing shed, w/ views from the mesa overlooking Meeker.....\$765,000
NEW! 1351 La Mesa Cir, Rangely- 5BD | 3.5BA | 6176.8 SF home w/ luxury finishes & views from 0.558 acres. Plus a 1976.7 SF garage+workspace w/ car lift.....\$765,000
65701 Hwy 64 - Enjoy river views from this single-level 3BD | 2.75BA | 2518 SF log home w/ domestic well & cistern, on 2706 acres, bordering the BLM. Reduced!.....\$540,000
925 Cleveland St - 3BD | 2BA | 1,640 SF single-level home w/ 118 SF basement, 800 SF garage on 0.52 ac corner lot w/ apple orchard, lean to, & shed.....UNDER CONTRACT
302 W. Main St, Rangely - Commercially zoned, 3080 SF building w/ paved parking lot, hwy frontage, great visibility. Plus separate 2BD | 1BA | 880 SF house. Reduced!.....\$265,000
1080 Park Ave- 3BD | 1.75 BA | 1,650 SF, move-in-ready w/ new appliances, updated windows and floors on a 7500 SF lot.....SOLD
444 1st Street- 4BD | 1.75 BA | 2245 SF home with hardwood floors, central A/C, a 1175 SF garage, and an oversized grassy corner lot.....SOLD
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.....UNDER CONTRACT
1129 Gail Cir- 0.24 acre lot w/ excavation started, water & sewer tap fees paid, soils engineering report available. Ready to build! Reduced!.....SOLD
1373 Juniper Rd- 0.26± ac lot in Sage Hills w/ sewer tap fee paid, ready to build!.....SOLD

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

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

TBD County Road 15
643 Main Street, Meeker

MEEKER HIGH SCHOOL ART SHOW
APRIL 27 - MAY 1, 2026
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM DAILY

STREAMLINE REALTY LLC

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

MEEKER: 65061 Highway 64: 2,100 Deeded acres, plus BLM grazing leases, riverfront, and great hunting.....	\$13,900,000
MEEKER: 1678 County Road 33: 560 acres, planted wheat, water rights, well water, two residences.....	\$3,500,000
SILT: 1334 County Road 250: 19.6 irrigated acres, 5BD/3BA log home	\$1,826,334
MEEKER: Adams Lodge Outfitters: Outfitting business, camp inventory, horses, truck, trailer, and base property	\$1,300,000
MEEKER: 1287 Market Street: 4BD/4BA .home with over 5,000 square feet of shop space	\$1,200,000
MEEKER: 2302 County Road 33: 9 acres, well water, 4BD/2BA single level home, attached garage, shop.	REDUCED \$899,000
PARACHUTE: 106 Cedar Circle: Nicely updated 3BD/2BA, garage, fenced yard.....	PENDING \$409,106
MEEKER: 545 West Street: Beautifully remodeled 2BD/1BA, privacy fenced, easy location.....	PENDING \$350,000
MEEKER: 645 4th Street: 4BD/1.75BA 3-level home, garage, storage, on a large corner lot	\$349,000
MEEKER: 760 5th Street: 2BD/1.25BA 2-story, 1 car garage, covered porch with western views	\$298,000
MEEKER: 267 6th Street: 1,450 sqft downtown commercial building, private offices, conference room, 2BA.....	\$190,000
MEEKER: 1018 Jill Drive: 1.62 vacant acres, utilities to lot line, off street parking installed.....	\$140,000
MEEKER: 1200 Flag Creek Drive: 3.28 acres with views of the river and golf course.....	\$99,000