

County asks appellate court to rethink RMCC decision

By Victoria A.F. Camron
Longmont Times-Call

Attorneys for Boulder County have asked the federal appellate court to reconsider last month's decision in favor of Rocky Mountain Christian Church.

In a motion filed Monday, attorney David Hughes argued that the three-judge panel wrongly used jury instructions instead of established law to evaluate the case.

Using the proper law will change the outcome of the case, Hughes wrote.

The lawsuit stems from the Boulder County Commissioners' 2006 decision to deny Rocky Mountain Christian Church's request to expand. The church wanted to add 132,000 square feet of buildings to its 106,000-square-foot campus.

After a 2008 trial, a federal jury decided the commissioners violat-

ed the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act because they did not treat the church equally to a non-religious institution; they placed a substantial burden on the church's practice of religion; and they put an unreasonable limitation on that practice.

In its appeal, Boulder County claimed jurors did not have sufficient evidence to support the ver-

dict. The appellate judges heard arguments on that issue, as well as whether RLUIPA is constitutional, in March.

The judges wrote in their May opinion that they reviewed "the sufficiency of the evidence against the district court's jury instructions."

But the county's attorneys can't find another case in which the 10th Circuit used the jury instruc-

tions as the law of the case, Hughes wrote.

The instructions never asked the jury to consider if the commissioners had a legitimate reason for denying the church's request, Hughes wrote.

Attorneys for Rocky Mountain Christian Church routinely decline to comment on the case.

Victoria Camron can be reached at 303-684-5226 or vcamron@times-call.com.

T-C LINE

Come on, people

To the person or persons who took my statue of St. Francis and angels over the weekend, come on, people. What's with you taking religious objects?

Editorial cartoon

I am very offended by the Opinion Page cartoon with Moe, Larry and Curly on the political lawn signs. The Stooges were consummate professionals of slapstick comedy and should never be used as a negative reference to the incompetence of our politicians that just don't get it. The Stooges were geniuses.

Who deserves land?

A recent caller suggests that Israel deserves their land because they were in the Middle East long before the Palestinians were. Using that reasoning, the caller should start packing his bags and give his house to an Arapaho or a Comanche Indian. After all, native Americans ruled Colorado long before the white men came. It's only reasonable.

Feeding fox

I just moved into the Stony Ridge area, and we have an abundance of foxes. And I was

told by one of my neighbors that someone feeds them in this area. ... They're a wild animal, and I just wondered if any other people have problems with those, too. I'm scared to let my dog out after dusk.

Fly your flag

In response to the person who wrote in about the flags on Tuesday, I agree wholeheartedly. I see a great improvement in flag flying, especially in the towns of Frederick, Firestone and Dacono. U.S. flags: They are not just for the holidays. Fly them every day. Go USA.

Hurray

Hurray. Firestone is now so rich they can start their own school district.

720-494-5485

Sound off, but please remember:

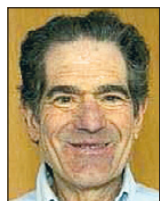
- Don't reference locally written opinions.
- Don't reference criminal or civil court cases.
- Don't attack private citizens.
- Don't reference candidates for office.
- Keep it brief.
- Calls may be shortened.
- We don't publish all calls.

Listen to the best T-C Line calls of the day by visiting TimesCall.com.

Scientists: Planes can seed clouds, cause snow

By Kari Keller
Longmont Times-Call

BOULDER — In December 2007, a group of Boulder scientists departed from the Jefferson County Airport on a research flight to study upslope clouds.



Heymsfield

As luck would have it, the ground radar used in the research later became instrumental in uncovering a scientific mystery that had bewildered scientists since the early 1940s.

"I was operating the radar on the ground, and there was a different appearance of the echo," said Patrick Kennedy, research associate at Colorado's State University Atmospheric Science Department. "I realized that it wasn't normal. We just happened to be equipped with the right instruments."

For decades, scientists have been puzzled by the formation of gaping holes in dense clouds — holes often stretching 10 to 20 miles wide. Yet, it wasn't until the 2007 National Center for Atmospheric Research flight and subsequent studies that the Boulder-based scientists discovered the holes were



Alan Sealls, chief meteorologist, WKRG-TV

A hole-punch cloud appears over Mobile, Ala. A group of Boulder-based scientists discovered that such holes can be formed by turboprop or jet aircraft. They observed that the force of the aircraft can seed the clouds, creating a snowstorm that can last up to three hours.

formed by turboprop or jet aircraft.

The scientists aboard the research flight also noticed what appeared to be snow falling from the hole-punched cloud.

"It's only when we went back that we were able to document what had happened. We went right through the feature and we didn't know it. It was just total luck," NCAR scientist Andrew Heymsfield said.

Six months after the 2007 research flight, Heymsfield and his team of colleagues began to discover that as turbo-charged propellers or jet planes move through layers of dense clouds, the speed at which the aircraft moves forces the air to rapidly expand. This expansion cools the air and allows tiny droplets of water to freeze. The frozen particles then fall from the clouds in the form of snow or rain.

The force of the aircraft actually seeds the clouds, creating a snowstorm that can last up to three hours.

"I originally thought that it was just a snowband. It wasn't until later that I could see it materialized in a linear fashion," Kennedy said.

According to Heymsfield, the scientists next steps are to investigate further and study how common an occurrence this is.

THINGS TO DO

Today

Boulder County Parks and Open Space will host its Summer Catfish Night from 7:30 to 11 p.m. today at the Fairgrounds Lake, Hover Street and Boston Avenue, Longmont.

Anglers 16 years old and older must have a current Colorado fishing license. Live bait is not permitted; worms and stink bait are allowed. Those attending should check in at the parking lot area off Boston Avenue.

For more information, call 303-678-6204 or visit www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org.

The Longmont Fire Department will host four upcoming opportunities for children to be read a variety of youth safety stories.

Children must be 3 to 7 years old and accompanied by an adult. The readings will be held from 10:30 to 11 a.m. in the community room at Longmont Fire Station 3, 1000 Pace St. The upcoming dates are:

- Today
 - Wednesday, July 21
 - Wednesday, Aug. 4
 - Wednesday, Aug. 18
- Call 303-651-8432.

To submit items for publication in Things to Do, please send information to calendar@times-call.com at least two weeks before the date of the event. Include event name, description, time, date, address, cost, and telephone number. Please place the name and date of the event in the subject line.

Have a news tip?

Call us at 720-494-5435
or e-mail newstips@times-call.com.

821 Collyer St.

- Price reduced to \$235,000
- 4 Bedrooms/2 1/2 Baths
- Almost 3000 Finished Square Feet
- Over \$70,000 of Remodeling Invested
- Large Deep Lot w/ Alley Access

RE/MAX Traditions
www.remaxtraditionshome.com
303-772-3800

Rick Corbin
303-827-7029

1320 Collyer Street

- BANK OWNED 1/2 DUPLEX
- 3 bedrooms/2 baths
- A/C, large yard, garage
- PRICE REDUCTION!!
- \$101,983

RE/MAX Traditions
www.remaxtraditionshome.com
303-772-3800

Alyson Canepa
303-912-4663

COUPONS ARE COMING!

24-144837

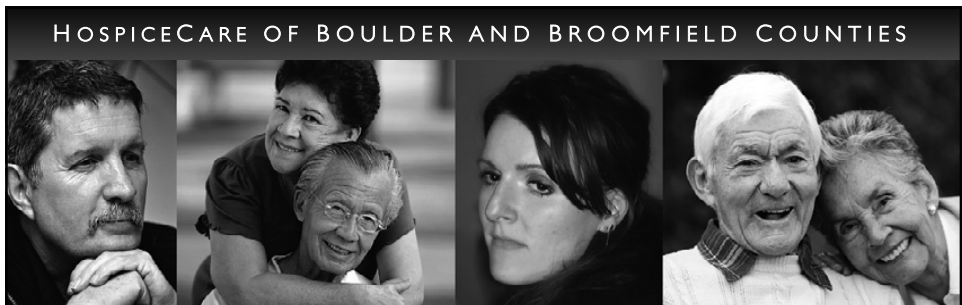
July 2010

Save money on items you use every day.

Times-Call coupons appear July 2
Colorado Hometown coupons appear on July 7

Call your sales rep today to schedule your coupon! 303-776-2244

COLORADO HOMETOWN WEEKLY



HOSPICE CARE OF BOULDER AND BROOMFIELD COUNTIES

Staying in Charge of Your Life When It Matters Most

Spending 4 hours now can help you avoid confusion and retain control when the time comes to make critical end-of-life care decisions.

Join us for a fascinating half-day workshop designed to help you understand your choices for care and how to communicate your end-of-life wishes so they'll be honored. Topics include Advance Directives, Choosing a Health Care Agent and Medical Technologies at the End of Life.

Saturday, June 26, 9:00 am to 1 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1000 West 15th Avenue, Longmont

Space is limited. No charge, but reservations required.

Please RSVP to Kim Mooney at kimmoooney@hospicecareonline.org

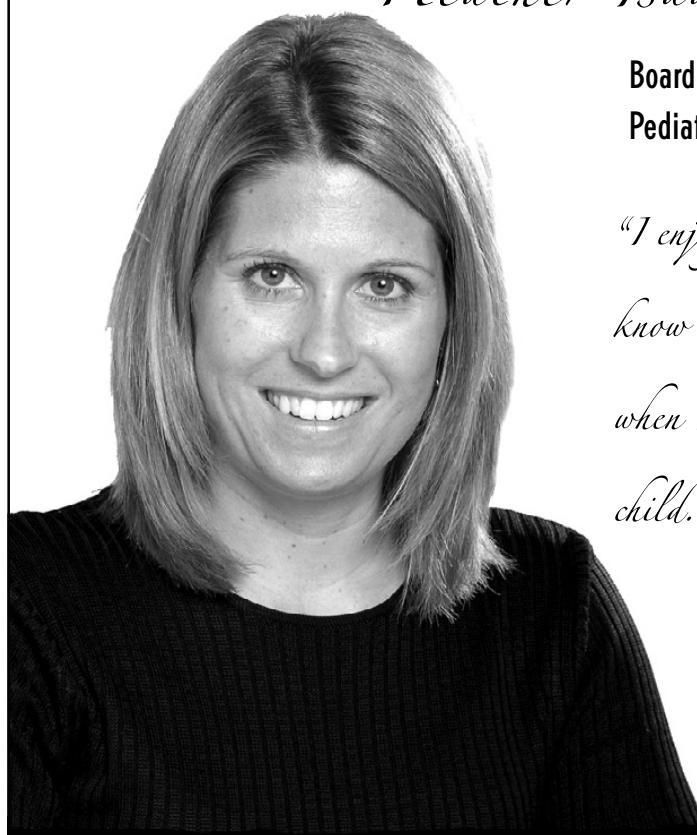


2594 Trailridge Drive East, Lafayette, CO 80026 303.449.7740 www.hospicecareonline.org

Heather Isaacson, M.D.

Board Certified
Pediatric Medicine

"I enjoy getting to know the whole family when I take care of a child."



I became a pediatric physician because the truth is - I really love kids. Over many years in my practice, I have found that working as a pediatrician can be both challenging and

rewarding. It is really fun for me to see babies grow into toddlers and then into preschoolers, school-age kids and on to adolescents. Being a part of this process is truly a privilege.

Longmont Clinic
A Complete Medical Center.

1925 West Mountain View Ave. • Longmont, CO 80501 • 720.494.3133 • www.longmontclinic.com