



THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION

proudly confers the

Spirit of the Pioneers Award

upon

Leota Cook

Leota Cook, whose journey to Meeker Colorado began when she and her husband, Jim, purchased the Meeker Herald in 1964. She moved to this unknown town and newly-owned business, with four young children in hand (Jim, Mary, Kim & Mike) and became a trusted, steadfast, highly valued member of the community.

The Cook family produced a quality weekly newspaper for the next 28 years. Behind the scene was Leota, steadfast, positive, thorough, kind, & caringwhich are attributes essential to success in business, life, and to the enrichment of our community.

We honor Leota with this award for her continual dedication, community service, servant leadership and special contributions to the citizens of Rio Blanco County. She is a humble, significant member of our Rio Blanco County community and will forever remain a part of its legacy and history.

The Spirit of the Pioneers Award was created for the purpose of honoring those hardy and determined individuals and families who exemplify special and long-term servant leadership representative of the early day pioneers who traveled in challenging, trying adversity to ultimately settle in the White River Valley. Homesteads, ranches, businesses, and professional services were established by those courageous men, women and children who settled into this wonderful country and contributed to the creation of our community. Their enviable and proud legacy lives on in the pioneer descendants, some of whose families have remained throughout many generations in Rio Blanco County.

A fitting description of Leota

**In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Second Day of June,
2018**

Voni Stewart

Voni Stewart, Co-President, RBCPA