

THE RIO BLANCO COUNTY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION

is pleased and honored to confer the

Spirit of the Pioneers Award

upon

Johnny Barton

in recognition of

Distinguished Leadership and Service

The Pioneer Spirit of the hardy and brave pioneer men, women and children who braved great dangers, hardships, illness and uncertainty to journey West into the beautiful White River Valley and create homesteads, farms, ranches and businesses required a great deal of courage, grit, determination and faith to endure, to do the right thing and to greatly succeed. Their enviable and proud legacy lives on in their pioneer descendants, some of whose families have remained through many generations in this wonderful country.

Johnny Barton has for many decades, exemplified the best of these virtues and strengths in his daily life. Since joining our pioneer community, he has quietly and selflessly contributed to the betterment and enrichment of the lives of many men, women and children of our community. His musical talents are shared by Johnny and Jenny and son Jerrick for the weekly enjoyment of seniors at the Walbridge Wing, Chuckwagon and many other occasions.

The Rio Blanco County Historical Society has dedicated the historic Garrison Military Officer's quarters to Johnny for his extraordinary services in the design, planning, grant funding, research and historically authentic restoration and preservation of the original cottonwood log exterior appearance and the creative authentic interior. Johnny is recognized for his the historic story-telling that fascinates museum visitors and patrons, for support of heritage and agritourism, and for unselfish servant leadership for the citizens of Meeker, Rio Blanco County, the State of Colorado and for the Nation.

> Given under our hand and seal this Third day of June 2017 by authority of the Board of Directors

Hallie Blunt and Mollie Turner, Co-Presidents
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