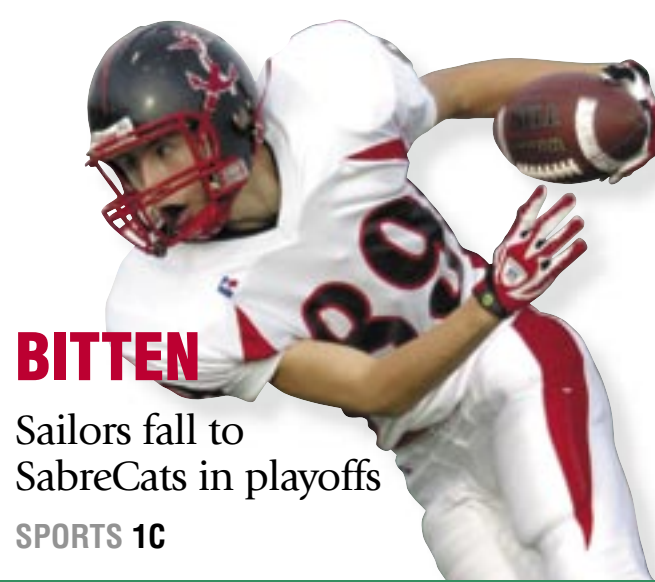




STEAMBOAT PILOT & TODAY

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BITTEN

Sailors fall to SabreCats in playoffs

SPORTS 1C



'New blood'

Dramatically altered council ponders future

Brandon Gee
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

After a swearing-in ceremony Tuesday, the new Steamboat Springs City Council will have to elect a new council president. The choice could be down to two.

"There's really only two candidates," said newly elected City Councilwoman Cari Hermacinski, referring to the experience of current councilmen Steve Ivancie and Loui Antonucci. "You need someone with institutional knowledge to run meetings."

But Hermacinski also said the most important thing would be to choose a president who really wants the job, whether

See **Council**, page 10A

Election 2007
www.steamboatpilot.com/election2007

A clean slate for School Board

New members look to start fresh

Mike McCollum
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

After winning seats on the Steamboat Springs School Board by wide margins, new members Laura Anderson, Lisa Brown and Robin Crossan — who campaigned under the "ABCs for Education" banner — may find their honeymoon brief.

With pressing needs such as two major construction projects, an overhaul of the district's curriculum and the task of searching for and hiring a superintendent, the public spotlight likely will stay trained on the ABCs. Anderson said she is prepared for that spotlight and is ready to implement change on the School Board.

"I've heard more than once ... that Tuesday's vote should be considered a mandate for change," said Anderson, who won the District 5 School Board seat with more than 60

See **School**, page 10A

When the world changed



BRIAN RAY/STAFF

United States Navy veteran and Doak Walker Care Center resident Donald Lufkin says he was proud to serve his country during World War II, and he thinks his fellow soldiers were proud of their accomplishments, as well.



BRIAN RAY/STAFF

Donald Lufkin's identification card serves as a permanent reminder of his service to our country during World War II.

Steamboat veterans tell stories about their service

Donald Lufkin, 84, remembers Dec. 7, 1941, like it was yesterday.

Lufkin was born and raised in Steamboat Springs and served in the Navy during World War II. He was on his family's ranch building a dairy barn when the news that Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor came over the radio.

"I always wanted to be a Navy man," Lufkin said, wearing an American Legion hat and his Navy ring on the tip of his index finger. Worn from many years of wear, the ring no longer fits.

Lufkin lives at the Doak Walker Care Center, along with several other of Steamboat's World War II veterans. More than 52 years have passed since the United States declared victory in Europe and in the Pacific, and as the surviving veterans grow older, they and

their stories have begun slipping away.

Today's Veterans Day holiday — known as Remembrance Day or Armistice Day in other parts of the world — marks the anniversary of the end of hostilities in World War I. The United States has an estimated 23.4 million living veterans, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 3 million of whom served in WWII.

Lufkin joined the Navy with a friend of his after a night at a local bar, when they decided it would be a lot easier to join up than keep working for their dads, according to his daughter, Vikki Franz.

Franz held her father's hand reassuringly while he told his story from his wheelchair, choking back emotion, and she prodded him with clues for memories he strained to remember.

"He's just started in the past few years to tell us stories about WWII, because I think it's hard for him," Franz said.

See **Veterans**, page 12A

Controversially yours

Wall notes positive achievements, addresses perceptions

Brandon Gee
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Some might balk at the label "controversial."

Not Gary Wall. "I'm a lightning rod for sure," the Routt County Sheriff said recently.

Wall's most recent storm is an Oct. 25 traffic stop that resulted in the sheriff being cited for driving under the influence, among other charges. Wall has inflexibly refused to discuss the details of the incident, other than to dispute the charges. The reticence is part of a larger personality trait that Wall might describe as resolve.

Others have called it defi-

See **Wall**, page 11A



BRIAN RAY/STAFF

Routt County Sheriff Gary Wall, right, works with administrative assistant Michelle Kuntz in his office Thursday. The sheriff acknowledges he is a "lightning rod" for controversy but defends his personnel decisions and work so far this year.

Giuliani accuses Clinton of waffling

Steven K. Paulson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOVELAND

Republican presidential front-runner Rudy Giuliani brought his campaign to Colorado on Saturday, accusing Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton of waffling on Iraq and illegal immigration.

Protesters repeatedly interrupted his appearance at a coffee shop in Loveland, about

40 miles north of Denver. They claimed he knew in advance of the Sept. 11 attacks when he was mayor of New York.

Police led one protester away, and the crowd of about 200 repeatedly shouted the others down.

Giuliani said Clinton's answer to key policy questions is "Maybe yes, maybe no, let me check a poll, let me check another poll."

"I think the American people are going to want steadiness, they're going to want focus, they're going to want someone who has handled a crisis," he said.

"Colorado needs the kind of president that America needs, one who's going to be on offense on the war on terror, one that's going to be realistic in facing Islamic terrorists and one that's going to lower

See **Giuliani**, page 11A

PAGE DESIGNED BY TARA SCHUPNER



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OUTSIDE

Breezy, partly cloudy.
High of 57.
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VIEWPOINTS

LAST WEEK: Do you think Steamboat Ski Area will get more than 400 inches of snow this winter?
Results/5A

THIS WEEK: Is the Steamboat Springs City Council doing an effective job as the city's Liquor License Authority?

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