



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



Goals for downtown

Mainstreet Steamboat Springs reveals agenda for 2008

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COLORADO

The paper chase

Lawmakers want voters to have option of casting paper ballots in person

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SPORTS



Water in the winter

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Making friends



BRIAN RAY/STAFF

Doak Walker Care Center resident Bettie Pierce, left, chats with a reporter as Strawberry Park Elementary School student **Marty St. Pierre**, right, listens while making a craft Wednesday morning. To read the report, see page 4.

Officials monitor herds

Money requested for possible feeding operations near Steamboat

Brandon Gee
 PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

So far, so good is the message for Northwest Colorado deer and elk herds, but areas including Steamboat Springs and Craig could be on the cusp of a

wildlife crisis.

Officials are closely monitoring the region and have taken steps that will allow them to quickly respond with an emergency feeding program if it becomes necessary. The state Legislature's Joint Budget Committee approved Tuesday a \$1.75

million request for money that may be used to feed local deer and elk. The money is being taken from the Wildlife Cash Fund, where any unspent funds will return.

Emergency feeding already is under way in the Gunnison Basin, where the snowpack was

at 133 percent of average as of Wednesday, and overnight temperatures are dropping as low as 35 degrees below zero.

"The good news is, at the present time, we're not seeing the same kind of conditions in

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SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| New snow — Mid-mountain* | 10 in. | Total snow† | 271 in. |
| New snow — Summit | 10 in. | Trails open | 163/165 |
| Base — Mid-mountain | 67 in. | Lifts open | 16/18 |
| Base — Summit | 76 in. | Conditions | Powder |

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 18 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org



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