



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



A day of caring

United Way hosts annual volunteering event across Routt County

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STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Spicing things up

Young entrepreneur opens South American restaurant today

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SPORTS



QB camp begins

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JOHN F. RUSSELL/STAFF

Gov. Bill Ritter addresses South Routt students and community members during an assembly Monday in Oak Creek. Ritter was in town to commend the community for its passage of a ballot initiative that will pay for a renewable energy heating system for South Routt schools.

Ritter praises South Routt

Schools' heating system 'visionary'

Brandon Gee
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

OAK CREEK

When it comes to heating its schools, the South Routt School District is old hat — and trail-blazing. Gov. Bill Ritter was in town Monday to commend the district on the latter.

South Routt schools could be the last in the state that are heated by coal. But by the time winter returns, South Routt students will be the first in Colorado kept warm by biomass boilers fueled with wood pellets.

The replacement of the district's dangerous and dirty coal boilers — which are pushing 40 years old — is part of a \$4.1 million effort to improve energy efficiency in South Routt schools. Geothermal heating systems and new lights also are being installed. The improvements are possible because of state grants and voters' approval of a \$1.57 million bond issue in November.

In an assembly at Soroco High School on Monday for students and the community, Ritter said the school district is a model for the "new energy economy" he hopes to see embraced in Colorado.

"This is really important to the state," Ritter said. "In Colorado, we really believe your

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LOTTO



Monday night's Cash 5 numbers: 5-11-21-29-31
Drawings are held Monday through Saturday.

WEATHER



Partly sunny and very warm. High of 78.
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READER FORUM

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